

JPRS-SEA-84-042

20 March 1984

Southeast Asia Report



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20 March 1984

SOUTHEAST ASIA REPORT

CONTENTS

AUSTRALIA

Dailies Report Hawke Steel Proposals in PRC (Various sources, various dates).....	1
To Boost Two-Way Trade, by Wallace Brown	
PRC Expresses Interest, by Michelle Grattan	
Hawke Seeks Union Pledge, by Paul Kelly	
Industry, Other Response on Steel Plan	
Hawke Credibility at Stake, by Michelle Grattan	
Beef Talks Deferred, by Ian Davis	
Antinuclear Activists to Campaign Against ALP at Polls (Barbara Hutton; THE AGE, 9 Feb 84).....	9
Increased Unemployment Mars ALP Economic Gains (Ian Davis; THE AGE, 10 Feb 84).....	10
Right-Wing Union Merger Could Topple ALP (THE AGE, 13 Feb 84).....	12
Iron Ore Future Bleak on Company Report (J. N. Pierce; THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, 11 Feb 84).....	13
Briefs	
Gulf War Gas Charges	15
Weapons Exports Boost	15
Coal to Malaysia	15

KAMPUCHEA

Clandestine Radios Report Battlefield Activity (Voice of Democratic Kampuchea, various dates; Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea, various dates).....	16
Position Near Stoeng 'Liberated' Bridge Destroyed in Mongkolborei Attacks in Moung District SRV Using Toxins in Battambang SRV Poison Use in Battambang Measures To Avoid SRV Poison Clash With SRV Forces in Samlot 1,500 'Liberated' in 23 Feb Attack Nine Sisophon Villages 'Liberated' Vietnamese Selling Humanitarian Aid SRV Casualties in February Guerrillas Kill 19 SRV Soldiers Five Villages 'Liberated' 20 Killed by Vietnamese Poisoning Six Villages Liberated Guerrillas Sack SRV Company 23 Feb Puok District Attack Guerrillas Control SRV Company Position Attack in Sisophon 27 February Guerrillas Attack Vietnamese Regiment Kompong Speu Battlefield Combat Guerrillas Attack Moung District Town Children Die From SRV Poison	
Donor Countries' Restrictions on Development Aid Has Impact (Sven Oste; DAGENS NYHETER, 15, 21 Feb 84).....	26
Drought Hurting Food Production Soviets Increasing Assistance	
Tourists Contradict Claim of Siem Reap's Capture (Phnom Penh Domestic Service, 25 Feb 84).....	34
VODK on Ngo Pin Speech to Human Rights Body (Voice of Democratic Kampuchea, 6 Mar 84).....	35
VODK Commentary Denounces SRV's 'Trick' (Voice of Democratic Kampuchea, 1 Mar 84).....	36
VODK Hails Role of Women in Resistance Struggle (Editorial; Voice of Democratic Kampuchea, 7 Mar 84).....	38

Briefs

Kandal Youths Defense Contribution	40
Chinh Note to Samrin	40
Takeo Province Settlement	40

LAOS**Youth Union Issues Instruction on Anniversary**

(KPL, 14 Feb 84)	41
------------------------	----

Briefs

Vietnam-Aided Dam	42
SRV Delegation Homebound	42
Hanoi City Delegation	42
Soviet Amity Delegation Homebound	42
PRK Delegation's Activities	43
Memorandum With CSSR	43
GDR Health Delegation	43
Radio Antenna From SRV	43
Japanese Medical Aid	43
Ideological School Delegation	44
Delegation's Return From Indonesia	44
Educational Talks With SRV	44
Education Protocol With SRV	44
USSR-Aided Ideological School	44
Swedish Forestry Assistance	45
SRV Geological Delegation	45
SRV-PRK Treaty Function	45
Australian Cooperation Agreements	46

MALAYSIA**Musa To Quit Perak and Johore Posts**

(STAR, 29 Jan 84)	47
-------------------------	----

Redistricting Will Increase Racial Imbalance: DAP Secretary**General**

(STAR, 30 Jan 84)	48
-------------------------	----

Briefs

Petronas Chairman	49
Regulating Travel to Iran	49

THAILAND**'Economic War' To Be Waged Against CPM**

(BANGKOK POST, 4 Mar 84)	50
--------------------------------	----

BANGKOK POST on Vietnamization of Kampuchea

(Editorial; BANGKOK POST, 29 Feb 84)	51
--	----

Briefs	
Malaysia Buys More Rice	53
Operation Against CPM Remnants	53
Industry Secretary's Transfer	53
Prisoners Accord With Italy	54
5 Billion Baht Trade Deficit	54
Aid to Karen Refugees	54

VIETNAM

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

Briefs	
Border Guards Decorated	55
VPA Radar Service Exploits	55
Radar Force Ceremony	56
Public Security Units Visited	56

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

New Zealand Trade Commissioner To Visit Vietnam (THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD, 13 Feb 84).....	57
EP Expected To Urge 'Conditional' Aid for SRV (Thepchai Yong; THE NATION REVIEW, 12 Feb 84).....	58
NHAN DAN Marks 'Victory Over Chinese Aggression' (VNA, 5 Mar 84).....	60
NHAN DAN Exposes PRC 'Schemes' in Southeast Asia (VNA, 2 Mar 84).....	62
Hanoi Cites Merdeka on ASEAN Stand on Kampuchea (Hanoi Domestic Service, 2 Mar 84).....	63

Briefs	
1979 'Defeat' of PRC Forces	65
Attache Speaks on Army Day	65

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

Briefs	
Rally Marks Trung Sisters' Uprising	66

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

Briefs	
Land for New Economic Zones	67

AGRICULTURE

Nam Bo Reassigns Land, Extends Collective Production (NHAN DAN, 2 Jan 84).....	68
Haiphong Reviews Its 1983 Achievements, Weaknesses (Minh Son; NHAN DAN, 2 Jan 84).....	70

DAILIES REPORT HAWKE STEEL PROPOSALS IN PRC

To Boost Two-Way Trade

Brisbane THE COURIER MAIL in English 8 Feb 84 p 2

[Article by Wallace Brown]

[Text] PEKING.— The Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, flew into China yesterday to a colorful red-carpet welcome in the cold.

Five hundred dancing children, a 200-man military and a 300-man guard of honor were the high point of a welcoming ceremony by the Chinese Premier, Mr Zhao Ziyang, in front of the Great Hall of the People in Tienanmen Square.

Across the massive square, thousands of people stood behind barriers in the minus-18 deg. late-afternoon cold to watch the arrival of the third Australian Prime Minister to visit China.

Chinese and Australian flags were draped around the square and in front of the Forbidden City, still bearing its more-than-lifesize portrait of the late Chairman Mao.

Mr Hawke was the first Australian leader to fly from South Korea to China — its old opponent in the Korean war — and his RAAF Boeing 707 was escorted out of Korean airspace by four South Korean FA-18 jet fighters.

In his four-day visit to Peking, Mr Hawke in his talks with Chinese leaders will concentrate on the north Asian strategic situation, including growing Russian militarism and the tensions of the Korean peninsula, disarmament, trade and Kampuchea.

Mr Hawke will push a significant "China action" plan, aimed at boosting two-way trade between Australia and China.

Main elements of the strategy being developed by the Trade Department are to assist Australian firms to penetrate China in co-operative joint investment ventures, in operations such as the manufacture of farm equip-

ment, and to help China penetrate the Australian market in "non-sensitive areas" for Australian manufacturers.

Latest statistics show Australia's exports to China are running at \$610 million (mainly wheat, wool and textile yarn), compared with imports from China totalling \$300 million (mainly textiles, cotton fabrics and outer garments).

Mr Hawke's visit comes after the inaugural visit by Mr Gough Whitlam as Opposition Leader in 1971, then by Mr Whitlam as Prime Minister in 1973, followed by Mr Malcolm Fraser in 1976 and 1982.

To mark the occasion, the China People's Daily yesterday recalled the visits by Mr Whitlam and hailed him as the "pioneer of Sino-Australia relations".

Mr Hawke's main talks will be with Premier Zhao, who came to Canberra last April, and who Mr Hawke described as "one of the outstanding world leaders".

He also will confer with the secretary-general of the Chinese Communist Party, Mr Hu Yaobang.

Mr Zhao and Mr Hu are the two main administrators in today's China under its most powerful man, Mr Deng Xiaoping.

However, Mr Hawke is not scheduled to be given the accolade of meeting with the 79-year-old Mr Deng at this stage, because Mr Deng is holidaying "outside Peking", celebrating the Chinese New Year.

Australian officials did try to arrange a meeting between Mr Deng and Mr Hawke when the visit was being planned, but were told he now has placed himself (nominally) in

the second rank of the Chinese hierarchy and seldom meets foreign visitors.

Mr Deng is still chairman of the communist party's central advisory commission and chairman of China's central military commission.

During a courtesy call at the Great Hall of the People by Mr Hawke after the welcoming ceremony, Mr Zhao said last night: "As old friends I am sure we can speak frankly."

PRC Expresses Interest

Melbourne THE AGE in English 10 Feb 84 p 1

[Article by Michelle Grattan]

[Text] PEKING. — China and Australia have agreed to a joint study which officials claim could lead to Australia exporting to China steel products worth hundreds of millions of dollars a year.

China has also said it would welcome Australian capital in its iron and steel industries and would be interested in investing in iron-ore production in Australia.

The Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, won approval for the feasibility study yesterday during his second three-hour meeting with the Chinese Premier, Mr Zhao Ziyang.

Mr Hawke said it was a development of "very major important and great potential" both countries.

Australian officials later claimed that if the project came off it was "not impossible" that it could double the Australian output capacity of up to seven million tonnes of crude steel.

During the meeting, Mr Zhao reaffirmed that Australia was in a favored position to win a large slice of the iron-ore contract for the giant Baoshan steel plant.

Australia hopes to get 50 per cent of sales for the first stage of the plant, due to open next year: this would be worth \$40 to \$50 million annually.

Australia would then hope to double the amount of iron ore sold to the plant when its second stage opened in 1987 or 1988.

Mr Hawke will visit the Baoshan project this weekend.

Mr Hawke said that BHP's Kwinana plant, in Western Australia, now in mothballs, could be brought into production if the feasibility study paved the way for significant export to China of se-

mi-processed products such as pig iron, slabs and billets.

But this plant has only about 600,000 tonnes output capacity — 10 per cent of total Australian capacity — and further capacity would have to be developed if the plan comes off.

After his talks, an enthusiastic Mr Hawke said: "We are very excited about it for the industry and for our economy as a whole." He said the proposal was a "striking illustration" of what he had been saying while abroad about the need to restructure Australian industry.

But whether Mr Hawke's hopes come to fruition depends on how the Chinese see the economics of the plan and whether BHP believes whatever guarantees might be obtained give it a sufficiently secure market.

A BHP spokesman in Melbourne last night welcomed the move and said substantial new contracts could mean hundreds of millions of dollars for Australia in export earnings and the creation of new jobs in the steel industry.

But the Kwinana plant would be brought on-line only if the price was right and the company was offered a long-term contract.

The plant closed in 1980 when contracts with China expired.

"We'd like to open it again, but only if we were offered more than a one-off contract. There is a tremendous amount of organisation involved and also it would be traumatic to take on a lot of new people only to see them retrenched again," the spokesman said.

Mr Hawke appears to have developed his initiatives on semiprocessed steel exports during his trip.

He said that officials had contacted companies about the proposal in the past few days.

Mr Hawke would not name the companies but presumably BHP was the main one.

The contact was to make sure there was available capacity for producing such exports before Mr Hawke floated the scheme with the Chinese.

Mr Hawke said that "Australia had reason to be optimistic" about the outcome of the study, which the Australian Government wants to begin as soon as possible.

Hawke Seeks Union Pledge

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 11 Feb 84 p 1

[Article by Paul Kelly]

[Text] Peking, Friday.--The Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, tied much of his own reputation to boosting steel trade with China today by revealing that he gave industrial relations guarantees about it to the Chinese Premier, Mr Zhao.

Mr Hawke also publicly associated himself with the prediction that the result could be a doubling of Australia's steel-making capacity.

Questioned about industrial relations, Mr Hawke said of his talks with Mr Zhao: "I indicated that if we're going to enter this integration of our iron and steel economies then we would understand the desire on their part to have a continuity of supply.

"I indicated to him--indeed I gave him the undertaking--that part of our commitment in this process would be that, not at the end as so often happens in the past, [but] at the outset we would be talking with the unions."

Mr Hawke said the aim would be to establish "industrial relations contracts" which would have "grievance procedures so that there would be a capacity on the part of our customers and our partners of knowing that they were not going to have their supplies interrupted as a result of avoidable industrial relations problems."

He said the industrial relations contracts would cover both grievances and wages--but he noted that wages would also fall under the prices incomes accord.

Both countries have agreed to study the feasibility of Australian exports meeting two needs--iron ore for the huge new Baoshan steelworks near Shanghai and the long-term requirement for raw steel by other Chinese steel mills.

The Prime Minister was critical today of GHP's timidity in the past, declaring that it had been "somewhat less than, I think, imaginative and adventuresome in its planning with regard to export markets."

He predicted that the new tougher international environment would create new steel opportunities for Australia in the region.

There were "quite compelling reasons" why other nations in the region as well as China "should now be prepared to discuss with us plans on a long-term basis for the supply of raw steel."

Mr Hawke said the outlook of the 1950s and 1960s in which there were "unlimited vistas open to a number of countries in which they thought they could do everything themselves" had given way to a toucher climate. He implied that nations were now looking elsewhere for steel supplies.

Speaking to Australian journalists during his visit to the Fragrant Hills outside Peking, Mr Hawke said that China's Minister for Metallurgical Industry, Li Dongye, had "indicated a very high degree of interest" and wanted to come to Australia for further talks.

The minister wanted to know how soon the China-Australia joint working party could begin. As a result, Mr Hawke said he would inform Premier Zhao at last night's return banquet of Australia action to get together its side of the working party.

Mr Hawke made it clear that the initiative was not a trade plan as such but "an integration of our iron and steel industries in a way which makes a great deal of sense for China and offers the opportunity of a very considerable expansion of our own industry."

"I don't want to put figures on it at this stage except to say this: if we only get a relatively small proportion of the growth in the Chinese industry towards the end of this century it could represent something like a doubling of our capacity in Australia.

"I don't want to open up unduly wide expectations but let me make this point: the concept obviously is attractive to the Chinese as well as to ourselves.

"It must be seen as capable of some sort of extension to other countries in our region. We will be looking at that as well."

The Prime Minister and his party fly south to Shanghai tomorrow. But there is a stopover at Nanjing on the way to enable Mr Hawke to hold talks with the party general secretary, Hu Yaobang.

Industry, Other Response on Steel Plan

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 11 Feb 84 p 3

[Text] Melbourne: The possibility of a big boost to Australia's crude steel sales to China and of WA's Kwinana steelworks being reopened will be discussed next month by BHP management and Chinese officials.

The talks to be held in Peking, will be part of regular discussions between BHP and MIM Metals, the authority responsible for steel imports into China.

BHP yesterday reacted guardedly to statements by the Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, that China and Australia had agreed to a study which officials claimed could lead to China importing steel products worth hundreds of millions of dollars a year.

On Thursday Mr Hawke--in Peking on a tour of Asia--said BHP's Kwinana plant could be brought out of mothballs if the study led to the export to China of pig iron, slabs and billets.

Australian officials said later that the project could double the national output capacity of up to seven million tonnes of steel.

A spokesman for BHP said yesterday: "We honestly do not know what to make of it. We are waiting to hear more when the Prime Minister and his party come back."

Demand

For Kwinana to be reopened the company would need a satisfactory price and continuity of demand such as a five-year contract with the Chinese, he said.

The ACTU president, Mr Cliff Dolan, said yesterday that the Hawke steel plan was one of the Federal Government's best initiatives in trying to revive sections of Australian industry.

Other union leaders, however, greeted Mr Hawke's announcement with cautious optimism.

In Perth, Mr Bob Cornwall, the manager of BHP subsidiary Australian Iron and Steel, said he was not aware of any new developments on the possible reopening of the blast furnace at Kwinana.

However, he said that late on Thursday he had received directions from Melbourne to begin a study on the cost and feasibility of reopening the furnace and ancillary plant.

He was reluctant to make any prediction about the possibility of a reopening and subsequent increase in work-force.

"I think it would be wrong to raise the expectations of people in an area such as this with its high unemployment rate simply on the basis of what we have done or what we know at this stage," he said.

The Leader of the State Opposition, Mr O'Connor, said that the recent WA Government mission to China had failed, in the light of trade possibilities which were now only being raised by Mr Hawke.

Hawke Credibility at Stake

Melbourne THE AGE in English 13 Feb 84 p 13

[Commentary by Michelle Grattan--"Hawke: Credibility at Stake"]

[Text] If his Asian trip is any guide, Bob Hawke could be in danger of succumbing as Prime Minister to a weakness he displayed as ACTU president.

In those days, he used to outline grand schemes for enterprises and activities that the ACTU could enter. Some of his plans succeeded, but others had to be abandoned or greatly scaled down.

When Mr Hawke stood in the foyer of the Fragrant Hills Hotel near Peking last Friday, painting a glowing picture of the potential for the Australian steel industry, one was uncannily reminded of some of those earlier high hopes.

Bob Hawke is the sort of leader who appeals to people's idealism. They want to believe him, to share his optimism.

If Malcolm Fraser had come to China and announced he had a plan which could double the capacity of the Australian industry to produce raw and semi-processed steel, he would have been reported, with universal cynicism, as the seller of snake oil.

Mr Fraser always started with a credibility gap, Mr Hawke invariably begins with the advantage of being seen as sincere and with the nation's interests at heart. So when he says there is something there just ready to be grabbed, he sounds convincing, even though the st · experts might be bemused and dubious.

In the past fortnight, Mr Hawke has locked himself in on two specific issues--steel and beef--to a degree that even Mr Fraser, who preferred his initiatives to be general and high flown on these trips, only rarely did.

In Japan, Mr Hawke caused a flurry among some Australian officials when he indicated that he hoped and expected Australia would be able to maintain its share of the beef market.

Mr Hawke had sought guarantees that Australia would not be squeezed in the Japanese response to pressure from the United States to take more of its beef. But officials were doubtful that Australia could do more than hold present levels or get some increase of any enlargement of the market. They were not hopeful of holding what has been a declining (it is now about 70 per cent) Australian share.

Mr Hawke's tougher public position has put maximum political pressure on the Japanese during the quote negotiations now under way. If Australia does retain its market share, he will have taken a public gamble which yields a good pay off for the beef industry.

The Prime Minister has staked a lot more of his credibility on the steel plan.

He has talked it up with very little reservation. Chinese agreement? To a feasibility study for more export of Australian raw steel has been packaged as a great coup and the precursor of immense possible future investment and development in an industry that required emergency Government action last year to enable it--as Mr Hawke stresses--to survive at all.

Mr Hawke told a banquet in Shanghai on Saturday night, after earlier inspecting the Baoshan steel works which comes into production next year: "We are looking at a situation where Australia not only supplies iron ore but we are hoping we may be mutually assisting each other's economy by supplying raw steel to our complex in China."

Although this export of raw and semi-processed steel has tended to be presented as something new, BHP is already supplying China with about 200,000 tonnes of semi-finished steel. But Mr Hawke is arguing that he is talking about not simply more exports but an "integration" of the countries' iron and steel industries.

One interesting side question is how far the Chinese will be willing to go on "integrating" such a sensitive industry with another country. It is also not yet clear exactly what "integration" means. Does it for example, mean joint planning decisions and how extensive would these be?

The Government is hoping that the proposal could lead to the reopening of BHP's Kwinana plant in Western Australia. In fact Kwinana was operating basically to supply pig iron to China and it closed after Chinese sales fell through.

BHP and the Chinese have recently talked about possible new pig iron exports, but the price has been too low for a deal. The Chinese have been buying on the spot market. The company is due to meet the Chinese again in a month.

Perhaps the Prime Minister's optimism may prove justified about Kwinana, though BHP would want a satisfactory price, a guarantee that it could sell the whole volume of the furace, and assured continuity, before it would re-open. It does not want a second closure on its hands.

But few in the industry or in Government departments believe Mr Hawke's feet are touching ground when he talks about doubling Australia's raw steel output by the end of the century.

The Australian industry is quite efficient internationally. But the Chinese would have to take account of the fact that they might be able to do better elsewhere, later.

A doubling of Australia's crude and semi-processed steel capacity would require investment of \$6000-\$7000 million--and in an industry which the experts claim is dying all over the place.

Despite the apparent obstacles, Mr Hawke gave a third Press conference on the proposal before leaving Shanghai yesterday and reported that the Chinese Press had observed that Premier Zhao had responded positively to the Australian proposal.

The Australian delegation is putting a lot of faith in their reading of the Chinese response, which was somewhat off-the-cuff, as they had not been warned of the plan before the visit. But that is one of the questions: were the Chinese showing Asian politeness or are they genuinely taken by the Hawke plan?

Mr Hawke himself is much influenced on the issue by his economic adviser, Ross Garnaut, formerly of the Australian National University, who has long been interested in promoting the idea of economic regional co-operation.

With steel, the regional trade plan and the industry restructuring speeches, this is Ross Garnaut's trip as much as Bob Hawke's.

The steel issue shows the sort of dilemma facing a politician of Mr Hawke's style.

His strength comes from his capacity to exude faith and optimism. But in the longer run, if he fails to deliver, or consistently under-delivers, he will forfeit some of that great public confidence he inspires.

With the country coming out of the recession, and facing all the restructuring issues that Mr Hawke has talked about on this trip, some talking up can be economically (as well as politically) useful. We've seen in earlier times, however, how politicians are eventually held to account for exaggeration, as after the resources boom talk.

Maybe Mr Hawke believes his popularity so high that there is no danger in a bit of exaggeration or, more likely, he has supreme confidence in his faith to deliver.

If so, he should recall that sometimes even he has only been able to fulfil part of the expectations he has generated.

Beef Talks Deferred

Melbourne THE AGE in English 13 Feb 84 p 3

[Article by Ian Davis]

[Text] CANBERRA. — The Japanese Government has postponed talks on Australian beef exports because of comments made by the Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, while he was in Japan.

Australian officials were to start the talks this week but their planned departure from Australia on Friday was abruptly cancelled at the Japanese request.

The postponement of the talks while other talks on beef imports are proceeding between Japan and the United States has increased the likelihood that Australian beef sales to Japan will be reduced in favor of increased sales by the US.

The Japanese Government has told the Australian Government that it is concerned at Mr Hawke's comments suggesting he had a guarantee from Japan's Prime Minister, Mr Nakasone, that Australia would maintain its existing share of the Japanese beef market.

According to the Japanese, no such commitment was given and according to official sources in Australia there appears to have been a misunderstanding or misinterpretation on Mr Hawke's part.

Australia last year supplied 80,000 tonnes of beef to Japan,

about 70 per cent of Japan's imports of beef, and valued at about \$150 million.

The Minister for Primary Industry, Mr Kerin, said last night: "I am disappointed that the talks could not commence but I understand the Japanese were not ready to talk with us."

Mr Hawke told a news conference on Osaka on 3 February: "I have secured, I believe, in discussions with Mr Nakasone and others an understanding that provided that Australia remains a competitive and reliable supplier — which we will — then the share that Australia has enjoyed in these traditional markets will be maintained."

Japan has been under pressure from the United States to increase its share of the Japanese beef import market to offset Japan's general trade surplus with the US.

According to sources, the undertaking that Australia has received is not nearly as clear-cut as a commitment to maintain Australia's existing share of the import market.

In a communique that Mr Hawke and Mr Nakasone released on 1 February, the Japanese simply promised to keep Australia's interests in mind — less than a guarantee to maintain Australia's existing market share.

The communique said: "The

Japanese side believes that the position of Australia as a supplier of primary products including minerals will not decline so long as these Australian products maintain their competitiveness and their stable supply is assured.

"The Japanese side confirms that it has no intention of dealing with trade problems with third world countries at the expense of Australia."

Before the postponement, Australian negotiators were already concerned that they would face a difficult task in their talks because of US pressure on Japan.

Some Australian officials believe that Mr Hawke's interpretation of the Japanese view was understandable and that the Japanese reaction was surprising.

However, Mr Hawke's comments left the Japanese open to accusations that they had reneged on commitments that they did not believe they had made in the first place.

The rescheduling of the talks is up to the Japanese who have the upper hand in these negotiations.

Australian officials are concerned that the longer the talks are delayed and the further the talks between Japan and the US progress, the more disadvantaged Australia will be.

ANTINUCLEAR ACTIVISTS TO CAMPAIGN AGAINST ALP AT POLLS

Melbourne THE AGE in English 9 Feb 84 p 4

[Article by Barbara Hutton]

[Text] Anti-nuclear activists planning to campaign against ALP candidates who support uranium mining in the run-up to the Federal election.

The strategy is based on the 1983 south-west Tasmanian dams campaign, when a coalition of environment groups campaigned for the ALP and Australian Democrats in marginal seats.

A spokesman for Friends of the Earth in Victoria, Ms Pat Jensen, said yesterday that unless the ALP strengthened its anti-uranium policy at its national conference in July, the campaign would go ahead.

She said the anti-nuclear movement would campaign in support of ALP candidates who had shown "by their actions" that they opposed uranium mining, and against those who supported mining.

The plan was launched at a national meeting of Friends of the Earth on Monday. It decided to campaign against Labor candidates only in seats where an Australian Democrat or anti-nuclear independent was standing. FOE will approach the Coalition for a Nuclear-Free Australia and other groups for help in the campaign.

Ms Jensen said it would not be a blanket campaign against the Labor party. "The party stood at the last election on a policy of phasing out uranium mining. If election promises are broken the environmental movement has no choice but to look for candidates who will follow through."

She said the Green Party in West Germany had pressured the Social Democrats into strengthening their environmental policies. "We want the Government to recognise the strength of feeling within their own electorate on this issue before it is too late."

A West Australian delegate, Dr Peter Brotherton, said at the meeting that State surveys showed 25 per cent of voters strongly opposed uranium mining compared to 5 per cent strongly in favor. "Only people who feel strongly about the issue will vote on it," he said.

A Wilderness Society organiser, Mr Chris Harris, said yesterday that his group had campaigned in support of the ALP in 15 marginal seats around Australia. All were won by Labor.

"Our campaigning was the decisive factor in three of those seats, including Fadden in Queensland, Diamond Valley in Victoria and Eden Monaro in New South Wales," he said. "We probably influenced the outcome in 12 other seats. About 15 per cent of ALP voters followed our ticket.

"However, we had 8000 people handing out leaflets on the day, and it was an issue that threatened very few people. I wish them luck. The uranium issue will be a hard one."

The Victorian ALP secretary, Mr Peter Batchelor, said yesterday: "The party's position will be determined at the next national conference in Canberra."

Most ALP backbenchers in marginal seats are not conference delegates and will not determine party policy.

CSO: 4200/548

INCREASED UNEMPLOYMENT MARS ALP ECONOMIC GAINS

Melbourne THE AGE in English 10 Feb 84 p 3

[Article by Ian Davis]

[Text] CANBERRA. — The Federal Government yesterday suffered its first reversal after an uninterrupted flow of good economic news in recent months with the release of figures showing a fall in the number of people with jobs.

The Bureau of Statistics said 667,000 people were looking for full or part-time work last month, giving Australia a seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate of 9.3 per cent, compared to 9.2 per cent in December.

The Minister of Employment and Industrial Relations, Mr Willis, conceded that the Government was "disappointed and surprised."

He said that although the Government had anticipated a fall in the actual employment figures as casual Christmas jobs finished, "the seasonally adjusted decline in employment was not expected."

The number of people estimated by the Bureau of Statistics to be in employment fell by 210,000 between December and January, and the number out of work rose by 23,400.

Seasonally adjusted employment went down 24,200 and unemployment rose by 18,300.

Mr Willis cautioned against making too much of a single month's figures and said employment had grown by 107,000 in the seven months to January, compared with the Budget prediction of an increase of 94,000 for the whole year.

He said the Budget predictions would be exceeded.

In Victoria, the number out of work remained almost static:

167,000 in January compared with 167,000 in December.

However there is little indication that Victoria's comparative stability is the result of increased job opportunities or a stronger economy in Victoria.

In fact more jobs disappeared in Victoria between December and January than in any other State: 76,000 of the 201,000 jobs lost during the month were lost in Victoria.

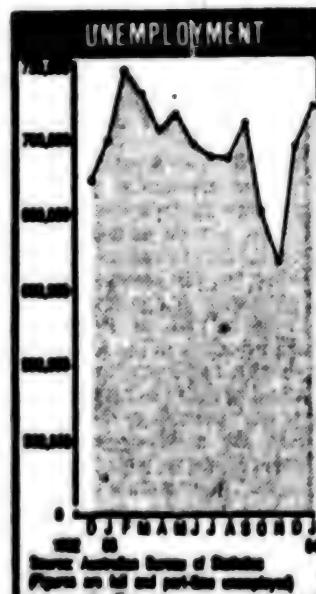
Unemployment may have been held down by more students staying on at school this year or by discrepancies in the statistics.

But the participation rate in Victoria, those over 15 either employed or looking for work, fell from 62 per cent in December to 60.4 per cent, indicating an increase in hidden unemployment as people drop out of the labor force.

According to one Federal official, Victoria's dependence on heavily protected industries such as motor vehicles and clothing, footwear and textile, means that State is likely to be slow to benefit from the economic recovery, while NSW, with a concentration of machinery and equipment manufacturers, is likely to be quick to benefit.

Victoria's Premier, Mr Cain, said January was an unpredictable month but the Victoria figures were justification of his Government's policies of creating jobs where ever possible.

The State Opposition leader, Mr Kennett, produced another set of statistics compiled by the Bureau of Statistics which he



said showed that Victoria was lagging behind the rest of Australia in job creation.

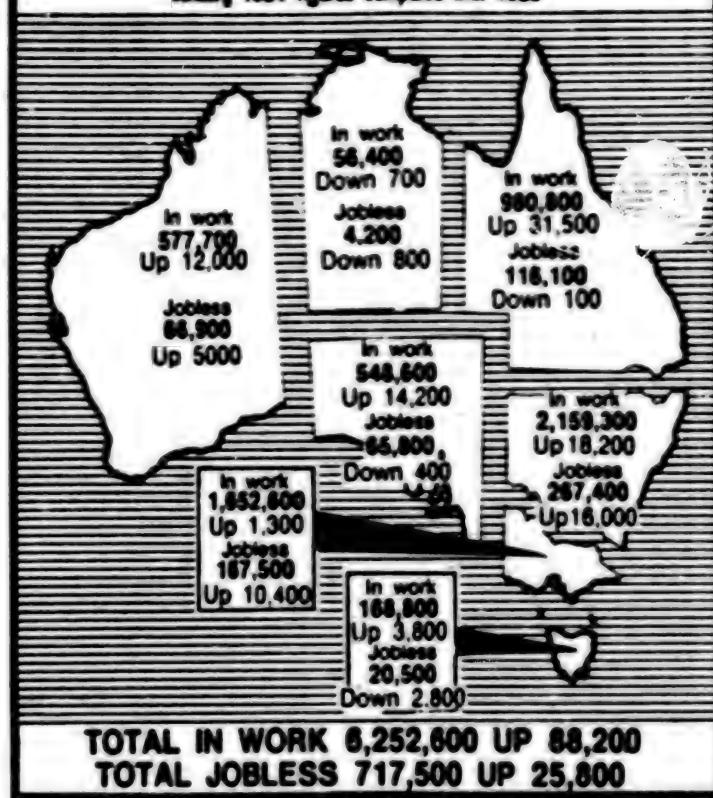
Mr Kennett said these figures showed that over the year to January, total employment in Victoria increased by less than 0.1 per cent, compared with an increase of 1.9 per cent in the rest of Australia. "Only 1300 new jobs have been created in Victoria over the past year compared with 84,000 in the rest of Australia," he said.

The Federal Opposition Leader, Mr Peacock, said the Government "must rethink the direction of its policies" as a result of the figures.

"The substantial rise in unemployment in January is very disturbing," he said. "The

Unemployment in the past 12 months

January 1984 figures compared with 1983



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics

Government must reconsider its decision to support the full indexation of wages."

The Director-General of the Confederation of Australian Industry, Mr Bryan Neaken, said the statistics were "extremely disturbing and cast grave doubts on the claims that we are entering a period of sustainable economic recovery. Earlier signs of economic recovery were in our view attributable to the wage pause."

He said it was significant that the worsening in unemployment and inflation has followed immediately the introduction of wage indexation.

CSO: 4200/548

RIGHT-WING UNION MERGER COULD TOPPLE ALP

Melbourne THE AGE in English 13 Feb 84 p 1

[Text] CANBERRA. — A Victorian Federal Labor politician last predicted the downfall of the Cain Government and eventually the Federal Government if moves to reaffiliate Right-wing unions in Victoria were successful.

The member for Melbourne, Mr Gerry Hand, said the unions concerned contained "elements which have plotted and worked against the party in a collective way during and since the split".

"I don't know what individual within the party is pushing it but I would say that there are people pushing it very hard and I would say that it will lead to a return to pre-1955," he said.

"If that's what people want to do, the ultimate effect of that is that these people will bring about the downfall of the Cain Government and, in my view, will bring about the downfall of the Hawke Government," he said.

Mr Hand, a prominent member of the Socialist Left, said the faction would oppose the re-admission vigorously.

In a related move, the Tasmania ALP rules committee has rejected an application for ALP membership by the senior vice-president of the State Storemen and Packers' Union, Mr Paul Lennon.

The application was an integral part of a scheme being strongly pushed by the Prime Minister, Mr Hawke, to reaffiliate Right-wing unions in Tasmania and Victoria

to the ALP in a bid to counteract the party's Left, which is dominant in both States.

On 24 February another group of unions, which split from the ALP during the 1950s, will apply to the Victorian administrative committee for, in some cases reaffiliation, and in others affiliation for the first time.

Party sources believe the national executive will have to deal with attempts to re-affiliate the unions in Victoria and attempts by officials of these unions to join the party.

CSO: 4200/548

AUSTRALIA

IRON ORE FUTURE BLEAK ON COMPANY REPORT

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 11 Feb 84 p 30

[Article by J. N. Pierce]

[Text] In its second year of strong recovery despite the world steel industry recession, Hamersley Holdings Ltd lifted its 1983 net profit to \$89.2 million from \$54.7 million in 1982 and a depressed \$17.2 million in 1981.

But with prices on Japanese iron ore contracts due to be cut by about 12 per cent on April, 1 and with the Australian dollar firming against the US dollar, the recovery is expected to go sharply into reverse this year.

"Unless there is a market upturn in the world demand for steel and consequently iron ore in 1984, the significant reduction in price for iron ore already established in the market and an appreciating Australian dollar will see a very significant fall in the company's profit in 1984," the company warned in yesterday's preliminary report.

Hamersley's long term contract prices were similarly cut in 1983 by 12 per cent, but the decline was offset by an 11 per cent devaluation of the Australian dollar against the US dollar during the year.

So far this year, the Australian dollar has appreciated by 3.8 per cent against the US dollar.

The key to Hamersley's impressive gain in 1983 was a 14.8 per cent gain in its iron ore shipments to 32.5 million tonnes despite a 10.8 per cent decline to 29.9 million tonnes in its production of saleable ore.

The company was able to ship more than it mined because it started the year with massive stockpiles of 13.4 million tonnes at its Dampier port and its Tom Price and Paraburdoo mines.

The higher level of exports lifted sales revenue by \$84.2 million to \$663.2 million, indicating that the average price a tonne--in Australian dollar terms--was only 4c lower than 1982 at \$20.38.

The 63 per cent jump in net profit to \$89.2 million lifted earnings on each 25c share from 22.5c to 36.8c and allowed directors to increase dividend from 8c to 12c a share, payable as a final distribution on May 3.

Hamersley did not pay a dividend for its June half-year even though its net profit for the period gained by \$14.2 million to \$25.3 million. The recovery gathered pace in the second half with a gain of \$20.3 million to \$49.5 million.

Income tax for the year increased sharply by \$42.8 million to \$127.7 million partly due to non-allowable depreciation arising from revaluation of fixed assets.

Depreciation was \$99.5 million (down \$2 million). State royalties were \$36.2 million (up \$2.3 million) and interest was \$22.5 million (down \$3.6 million). The smaller interest bill followed a \$45 million reduction to \$183.6 million in Hamersley's outstanding loans.

Hamersley's sharp improvement in 1983 is further good news for CRA Ltd. which has a 93.8 per cent equity in the iron ore miner with a group of Japanese steel mills holding most of the remainder.

It follows the previous week's announcement by Comalco Ltd (67 per cent owned by CRA) of a sharp recovery in 1983 profit from \$5.03 million to \$26.38 million.

CSO: 4200/548

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

GULF WAR GAS CHARGES--The foreign affairs minister, Mr Hayden, says Australian experts believe there is substantial basis for Iranian claims that Iraq has used chemical weapons in the Gulf war. Mr Hayden told parliament the experts' conclusion that mustard gas appeared to have been used was a very disturbing development. The foreign minister, who was replying to a question, said the government had moved immediately to seek a global ban on the manufacture and stockpiling of chemical warfare agents. He said Australia believed the situation called for a full, impartial and independent investigation by United Nations. Teheran's claims came after Iran flew at least 15 of its soldiers to Europe for the treatment of facial injuries now thought to have been caused by exposure to chemical weapons. The United States has said the available evidence indicates the use of such weapons and has voiced strong condemnation. Iraq has accused the Americans of hypocrisy. Mr Hayden said he would be instructing the Australian ambassador in Baghdad to take up the issue with the Iraqi Government. [Text] [BK070201 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0130 GMT 7 Mar 84]

WEAPONS EXPORTS BOOST--The Department of Defense Support has suggested setting up of a sales organization outside normal bureaucracy to boost Australia's export of military hardware to Southeast Asia. The suggestion comes in a submission to the Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defense. The submission argues that such a body could adopt a more aggressive marketing stance than as currently possible with the defense support as a government department. But, it says the body would naturally be subject to government policy on arms trading with sales limited to stable countries not engaged in warfare which do not potentially threaten Australia or its established allies. The department of defense support says Australia's experience as an exporter of defense-related products has so far been disappointing. It says that boosting exports as well as stimulating Australian industry would enhance the country's own military capability in the event of an emergency, thus strengthening its role in the southeast Asia Pacific region. [Text] [BK090818 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 9 Mar 84]

COAL TO MALAYSIA--Malaysia is expected to sign long-term contracts of coal with five Australian companies within the next 3 months. A spokesman for the Malaysia Mining Corp.--the country's only coal importing agency--told Radio Australia's Kuala Lumpur office that the amount would be between 900,000 and 1,000,000 tons annually for periods of between 5 and 15 years. He said five Australian companies had been selected to supply the coal but he declined to name them. The spokesman said the coal would represent 60 percent of the annual requirements of the state-owned National Electricity Board for its two coal-powered stations at Port Klang near Kuala Lumpur. The two stations are due to come into operation in 1987. [Excerpts] [BK071357 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 6 Mar 84]

KAMPUCHEA

CLANDESTINE RADIOS REPORT BATTLEFIELD ACTIVITY

Position Near Stoeng 'Liberated'

BK251037 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT
24 Feb 84

[Text] On 20 February, our national army attacked a Vietnamese platoon position east of Stoeng, below hill 204 on the Koh Kong Leu battlefield. We completely liberated this position. We killed seven Vietnamese enemy soldiers and wounded 10 others for a total of 17 casualties. We destroyed three AK's and seized eight mines, 17 B-40 rockets, five bundles of goods, and a quantity of materiel.

Long live our valiant and courageous national army, guerrillas and people of the Koh Kong Leu battlefield!

Bridge Destroyed in Mongkolborei

BK250248 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 24
Feb 84

[Text] Here is an additional report on the attack and liberation of Mongkolborei District seat.

During the attack and liberation of Mongkolborei District seat, Battambang Province, on 17 February, apart from the destruction of various Vietnamese strategic positions as broadcast earlier, we also destroyed a 20-meter bridge over Mongkolborei river on Route 5, a drainage pipe along the railway line west of Mongkolborei District town, 10 trenches and various military material. We also seized four radio-recorders, four radio receivers, and some war materiel.

Attacks in Moung District

BK251051 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2300 GMT 24 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Here is a report from the Moung battlefield: On the night of 19 February, our national army attacked and swept the Vietnamese enemy east of Moung market from Kralaom Phluk to Thnal Bat villages. As a result:

1. We destroyed and liberated six Vietnamese enemy positions: a company position at Kralaom Phluk village, a platoon position at Thnal Bat village, and four group positions, two at Pou Kaong village and the other two at Cham-hieng station.
2. We liberated seven villages: Kralaom Phluk, Pou Kaong, Chahudy, Ampil Chhung, Thnal Bat, Thmat Pong and Svay Prahaong.
3. We killed 15 Vietnamese enemy soldiers and wounded 23 others. We destroyed five AK's, two B-40's, three barracks, 60 trenches, three commune offices, a paddy storehouse with 170 sacks of paddy in it, and many other items of military equipment.
4. We cut four bridges; two railway bridges with a total length of 20 meters; and two on route 5 with a total length of 45 meters. These four bridges are located between Kralaom Phluk and Thnal Bat villages.

SRV Using Toxins in Battambang

BK251039 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 24 Feb 84

[Excerpt] On 14 February, in Bavel District, Battambang Province, the Vietnamese enemy put poison in various water sources and fired toxic shells killing and affecting many of our people. Our people's oxen have also been affected and are dying.

SRV Poison Use in Battambang

BK021002 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Excerpt] The Vietnamese aggressors stationed in Prey Svay position, Moung District, Battambang Province, injected poison in watermelons throughout the orchards of Prey Svay village on 11 February. The people picked the watermelons and sold them at the market. Three people from Rung village who bought the poisoned watermelons died immediately after eating them. The Vietnamese then accused the growers of the watermelons of responsibility for the poisoning. However, our people in the area without exception knew that no one other than the Vietnamese aggressors were guilty of poisoning our countrymen to death.

In the recent past, particularly during this dry season, like the people in the rest of the country, those in Moung District have seen many of their relatives die from the Vietnamese enemy aggressors' poison.

Measures To Avoid SRV Poison

BK260420 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 25 Feb 84

[Text] On 10 February, the Vietnamese enemy put poison in the Oral River in Thpong District, Kompong Speu Province, killing two people and affecting a number of others.

During this dry season, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors have intensified the use of poison to exterminate our people in a more cruel and barbaric manner. Therefore, we appeal to our people to be constantly vigilant to oppose and thwart the Vietnamese enemy's maneuver of using poison. Our people should take the following concrete measures:

Water sources that are used daily must be guarded and protected to prevent the Vietnamese enemy from putting poison in them. Wells should have covers in case the Vietnamese enemy spray poison from airplanes.

While traveling, water should be carried along to avoid indiscriminate use of other waters. If water must be used from rivers or streams that are far away from villages and cannot be guarded, it should be tested first by dogs or other animal. Fish and other creatures that have died in water should not be indiscriminately consumed. Foodstuffs and vegetables sold in markets should be carefully guarded and protected to prevent Vietnamese agents from putting poison in them. Anyone affected by the poison of the Vietnamese enemy aggressors should be immediately treated in accordance with experience or the directives of our Democratic Kampuchean Health Ministry.

Clash With SRV Forces in Samlot

BK260424 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2300 GMT 25 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Here is a report from Samlot battlefield: On the night of 21 February, we launched a special attack against a Vietnamese battalion position at O Reang Khen. After a 30-minute battle, we completely liberated and controlled this position. As a result we killed 14 enemy soldiers and wounded 20 others for a total of 24 casualties, including a battalion commander and a platoon commander killed. We destroyed 18 AK's, two CETME guns, an RPD, a DK-82, two B-41 rocket launchers, a B-40 rocket launcher, a 12.8-mm machinegun, 25 barracks, 55 trenches, rice stock containing 200 sacks of rice, an ammunition depot, a warehouse, a salt storehouse, a stock of poison, and a quantity of various materiel. We also seized a K-54, two Ak-s, seven crates of AK ammunition, 10 cases of CETME ammunition, 25 B-41 rockets, 63 hand grenades, 20 AK loaders, 10 AK cartridge pouches, eight rucksacks, 14 belts, 30 pairs of shoes, 30 sets of clothing, five canteens, 25 helmets, 11 hammocks, nine gas masks and a quantity of documents and other materiel.

1,500 'Liberated' in 23 Feb Attack

BK280658 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 0500 GMT 28 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Here is a report from Kompong Cham battlefield. Stoeng Trang District: On the night of 23 February, we attacked and liberated a Vietnamese platoon position at Traeuy Prek village and ambushed the Vietnamese reinforcement troops.

As a result, we killed 20 enemy soldiers and wounded 10 others for a total of 30 casualties. We destroyed four RPD's, seven AK's, two B-40 rocket launchers, three barracks, 10 trenches, a C-25 field radio, an ammunition depot, a rice stock and a quantity of materiel. We seized an RPD loader, 100 rounds of ammunition, a Claymore mine, a canteen and a quantity of materiel. We liberated 1,500 people who had been conscripted from Kroch Chhma, Chamka Leu and Stoeng Trang districts to clear the forest and build barracks for the Vietnamese enemy.

Nine Sisophon Villages 'Liberated'

BK021026 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] On the night of 24 February, our national army and guerrillas attacked and killed Vietnamese experts attached to Prek Norin commune and wiped out Vietnamese troops in the areas from Svay Chrum to Prek Trap villages on the Sisophon battlefield south of Route 5. As a result:

1. We overran and completely controlled Prek Norin commune;
2. We killed 10 Vietnamese commune experts and wounded 15 others;
3. We seized 12 AK's and a quantity of materiel;
4. We liberated nine villages: Svay Chrum, Ek Tram So, Prek Norin, Sbov, Rohal Suong, Don Ma, Anlung Ak, Andong and Prek Tranch.

Long live our valiant national army, guerrillas, and people of the south Sisophon battlefield!

Vietnamese Selling Humanitarian Aid

BK020304 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2300 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Recorded statement by a man in Moung District, Battambang Province]

[Excerpt] I am an inhabitant of Moung District, Battambang Province. I have great indignation against the Vietnamese enemy who has committed aggression against Kampuchea. The Vietnamese aggressors have committed crimes against the people in my locality. Concerning the humanitarian aid, they have not distributed the international aid meant for the people. Instead, they have sold humanitarian aid to the people. The people in villages, communes and districts in Battambang Province have not received the humanitarian aid provided by the United Nations. Instead, the Vietnamese aggressors have sold this aid to the people. They have never distributed this aid to our people.

SRV Casualties in February

BK040924 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2300 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] Here is a report on the casualties suffered by the Vietnamese enemy aggressors in February on battlefields throughout the country.

1. Koh Kong-Kompong Som battlefield: 330 Vietnamese enemy soldiers killed and 420 others wounded. Total: 750 casualties.
2. Leach battlefield: 191 killed and 185 wounded. Total: 376 casualties.
3. Samlot battlefield: 139 killed and 192 wounded. Total: 331 casualties.
4. Pailin battlefield: 158 killed and 231 wounded. Total: 389 casualties.
5. South Sisophon battlefield: 359 killed and 432 wounded. Total: 791 casualties.
6. North Sisophon battlefield: 99 killed and 97 wounded. Total: 196 casualties.
7. Siem Reap-Route 6 battlefield: 370 killed and 333 wounded. Total: 703 casualties.
8. Chhep-Thala Preah Vihear battlefield: 277 killed and 233 wounded. Total: 510 casualties.
9. Kompong Cham-Kompong Thom battlefield: 385 killed and 381 wounded. Total: 766 casualties.
10. Moung-Koah Kralar battlefield: 206 killed and 262 wounded. Total: 468 casualties.
11. Pursat battlefield: 147 killed and 182 wounded. Total: 329 casualties.
12. Western Region battlefield: 68 killed and 42 wounded. Total: 110 casualties.
13. Southwest Region battlefield: 133 killed and 112 wounded. Total: 245 casualties.
14. Northeast-Eastern Region battlefield: 125 killed and 79 wounded. Total: 245 casualties.
15. Phnom Penh battlefield: five killed and three wounded. Total: eight casualties.

In sum, we killed 2,992 enemy soldiers and wounded 3,184 others for a total of 6,176 casualties.

Guerrillas Kill 19 SRV Soldiers

BK040906 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] On the night of 27 February, our guerrillas attacked a Vietnamese position at (Roung Masin) Bridge on the road between Nimit and Kouk Thom. We completely destroyed this position. We killed 19 Vietnamese enemy soldiers on the spot and wounded 13 others for a total of 32 casualties. We destroyed a B-40 rocket launcher, a machinegun, an M-79, 19 AK's, 10 barracks, three trenches, three sacks of rice, a telephone, seven cases of AK ammunition, three cases of M-30, and a quantity of military materiel. We also seized 120 meters of telephone wire and a quantity of various materiel.

Long live our valiant and courageous National Army, guerrillas and people on the Mak Hoeun-Nimit battlefield!

Five Villages 'Liberated'

BK040912 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 3 Mar 84

[Text] On the night of 28 February, our commandos attacked and destroyed a position of the Vietnamese experts at Toek L'ak village. We killed five Vietnamese enemy soldiers and wounded three others for a total of eight casualties. We destroyed three barracks, a stock of medicine, three barrels of diesel, a telephone and two AK's. We also seized a typewriter and a quantity of medicine. We completely liberated and controlled this Vietnamese position and also liberated five villages: Toek L'ak, (Chraloem), Prey Ph'ao, Tuol and (Bat Veal Ta Ek).

Long live our valiant and courageous National Army, guerrillas, and people on the Kompong Som battlefield!

20 Killed by Vietnamese Poisoning

BK050814 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2300 GMT 4 Mar 84

[Text] Currently, the Vietnamese enemy is stealthily poisoning foodstuffs sold in markets in Kompong Cham provincial town, killing 20 people including children. More are being affected by these poisoned foodstuffs.

Six Villages Liberated

BK061114 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] On 1 March our National Army and guerrillas attacked and liberated a Vietnamese enemy position in Khpop village, Sangke District [Battambang Province]. We killed or wounded a number of Vietnamese soldiers, destroyed three AR-15's and a commune office building and seized four AR-15's and 120 sacks of

paddy. We liberated nine villages, namely Sanao, O Rumchen, Khpop, Bat Trang, Khet, O Totoem, Thmar Pimuk, Prem and O Kambot villages.

Long live our valiant National Army, guerrillas and people on the Western Tonle Say Lake sector of the Sisophon battlefield, north of Route 5!

Guerrillas Sack SRV Company

BK061002 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] Our commandos launched a two-pronged attack on the night of 25 February against a Vietnamese position at Trapeang Chong, Thpong District, Kompong Speu Province. The first prong attacked a company position at Phlov Kou, which was part of the defense network of the Vietnamese battalion at O Taong, and a position of Vietnamese experts. The second prong raided the battalion position at O Taong. After 20 minutes of battle, we completely destroyed the Vietnamese company position at Trapeang Chong where we killed 31 Vietnamese soldiers, wounded seven others, and destroyed a machinegun, a drum-magazine machinegun, an M-79, a B-41, a B-40, 21 AK's, three AR-15's, and a pistol. We also destroyed four barracks, 25 trenches, a drug depot, an ammunition dump which burned for 3 hours, a paddy warehouse with 2,000 sacks of paddy, a cloth storehouse, three water pumps, a Soviet-made field radio, three radio receivers, a tape recorder, two telephones, and all the war materiel at the position.

It is to be noted that on the second prong, we killed six Vietnamese soldiers, including a sublieutenant and two platoon commanders, and wounded nine others for a total of 53 enemy casualties. We liberated four villages, namely Phlov Kou, Banteay Pralak, Roung Masin and Phdau villages.

Long live our valiant National Army, guerrillas and people of Thpong District, Kompong Speu battlefield!

23 Feb Puok District Attack

BK061000 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] On 23 February our National Army and guerrillas raided two Vietnamese positions at Kouk Chan in Puok District, Siem Reap Province, killing three Vietnamese aggressors and wounding five others, including a Vietnamese expert. We destroyed a 60-mm mortar, two AK's, 15 trenches, and some war materiel and seized a drum-magazine machinegun, a B-40, five AK's, an SKS, 1,370 rounds of AK ammunition, two B-40 rockets, three hammocks, 12 rucksacks, 13 sets of clothes, seven pairs of shoes, 10 helmets, 20 AK magazines and a 60 mm mortar bipod. We liberated and controlled these two Vietnamese positions for 2 days before pulling back to our base.

Long live our valiant national army, guerrillas and people of Puok District, Siem Reap Province!

Guerrillas Control SRV Company Position

BK061036 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2300 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] On the night of 3 March, our commandos raided a Vietnamese company position at Pring Kaong on the northern Sisophon battlefield. After 10 minutes of fighting, we killed 26 Vietnamese soldiers and wounded 18 others. We destroyed an 80-mm mortar, four AK's, two B-40's, a Goryunov, a C-25 field radio, an ammunition depot, eight barracks, 28 trenches and some war materiel and seized 15 AK's, six B-40's, five RPD's, two crates of AK ammunition, 15 B-40 rockets, and some war materiel. We completely controlled this Vietnamese company position.

Attack in Sisophon 27 February

BK061009 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] On 27 February our National Army and guerrillas swept the Vietnamese aggressors out of the area from Bansay Treng to Kaeun Keh on the Sisophon battlefield, south of route 5. We destroyed and controlled two Vietnamese positions and liberated six villages, namely Ta Meas, Kaeun Keh, Chhke Kon, Kouk Khmum Khang Lech, Kouk Khmum Khang Kaeut and Bansay Treng villages. We killed three Vietnamese soldiers and wounded five others. We destroyed a 10-meter span of two bridges, one at Kouk Khmum and the other at Bansay Treng. We also destroyed two sewage pipes and seized a quantity of materiel. At present, we are still in control of these two Vietnamese positions and villages.

Long live our valiant National Army, guerrillas and people of the Sisophon battlefield, south of route 5!

Guerrillas Attack Vietnamese Regiment

BK061006 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] Our commandos attacked a Vietnamese battalion position at Sre Kul, which was part of the defense network of the Vietnamese regiment position in the Samlot District seat, on the night of 28 February. After 10 minutes of fighting, we took complete control of this position, killing eight Vietnamese soldiers and wounding 22 others for a total of 30 enemy casualties. We destroyed 14 assorted weapons, including a 122-mm artillery piece, 18 large military barracks, 20 major networks, a large ammunition dump, a paddy storehouse with 50 sacks of paddy, and a war materiel warehouse. We also seized an 82-mm mortar, a B-40, five AK's, two crates of AK ammunition, 20 handgrenades, 14 drum-shaped mines, a sheetmap, two telephones, three sets of gas masks, a radio receiver, and a quantity of war materiel. The survivors fled helter skelter into the Samlot District seat.

Long live our valiant National Army, guerrillas and people of the Samlot battlefield!

Kompong Speu Battlefield Combat

BK061112 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] On 22 February our National Army and guerrillas launched a three-pronged attack against the Vietnamese aggressors at Tang Samraong, Phnum Sruock District, Kompong Speu Province. The first prong went from Sre Chreou to Sdok Chrey, the second from Kangval to Dong village, and the third toward the Vietnamese enemy platoon position in the Tang Samraong commune seat. We completely smashed the enemy position destroying six AR-15's, six SKS's, four SK's.

Guerrillas Attack Moung District Town

BK080544 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 0500 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Text] On the night of 4 March our National Army on the Moung battlefield [Battambang Province] attacked Moung District town from two directions. The first prong entered from east of the river at the (Ream Pon) reservoir and headed toward the national route bridge and the railway bridge. The second prong entered from the Vat Pou College and headed toward the market, the medicine storehouse and the Vietnamese enemy administrative office attached to Moung District.

We overran and completely controlled this Moung District town. As a result:

1. We destroyed 10 positions of the defense network of Moung District seat, including three battalion positions, a company position, and six squad positions.
2. We killed 18 enemy soldiers and wounded 19 others.
3. We destroyed a DK-82, an 82-mm mortar, a 12.8-mm machinegun, a B-40, and 10 AK's.
4. We destroyed a 200,000-liter gasoline storage tank.
5. We destroyed an engine oil depot, a kerosene depot, and a diesel oil depot.
6. We destroyed 23 trucks, including 19 500-model trucks, a GMC and three FWU trucks.
7. We destroyed two power generators.
8. We destroyed two clothier warehouses with 1,000 rolls of cloth.
9. We destroyed two rice warehouses with 1,000 sacks of rice.
10. We destroyed two paddy warehouses with 1,000 sacks of paddy.
11. We destroyed a lathe machine.

12. We destroyed two telephones and a quantity of war materiel.
13. We blew up two bridges, namely a 70-meter bridge in the market and 10-meter bridge east of the market.

We seized four AK's, a B-40, an AR-15, two telephones, 15 rolls of cloth and a quantity of ammunition and war materiel.

Children Die from SRV Poison

BK090233 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 8 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Between 20 and 26 February, the Vietnamese enemy put poison in food-stuffs sold in Kompong Cham provincial town market. Twenty children who bought and consumed these foodstuffs died and a number of others are still affected. Currently, the Vietnamese enemy are putting poison in markets throughout the provincial seat killing many of our people.

CSO: 4212/34

KAMPUCHEA

DONOR COUNTRIES' RESTRICTIONS ON DEVELOPMENT AID HAS IMPACT

Drought Hurting Food Production

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 15 Feb 84 p 11

[Article by Sven Oste]

[Text] Large heaps of rice are lying in front of the small houses of bamboo in the towns. The harvesting continues in the rice fields in the cool morning hours. The large yellow heaps of rice keep growing every day.

However, at the same time the signals of alarm are heard, shrill and continuous. The figures from the various parts of the country show that it is a poor crop. In 5-6 months it will have been consumed in several provinces. Then, the months of famine will start in thousands of towns, with malnutrition, deficiency diseases, perhaps starvation.

Here at Takeo the crop will be 34 percent smaller than that of last year. He touches the pink leaves, speaks in a low voice.

In his province, the spring crops are small, as practically everywhere in Kampuchea; it is the dry season when enormous efforts involving irrigation are needed; dams, channels, pumps. During the dry season, they are reduced to planting and harvesting in fields located close to lakes and rivers.

The spring rice crops thus have little impact.

It is the crops of the summer which feed the people--and everything depends on the monsoon rainfall. It is that crop which is now being harvested; it starts in November and goes on far into February.

As he talks about the months which have gone by, he becomes increasingly silent; his words are hardly audible on account of the buzzing of the flies.

The rainy season usually starts in May. However, May had gone by, June had gone by, and July as well. Well, toward the end of July the rain started. Later on, they had too much rain, with enormous floods, and in huge areas the rice plants became flooded and destroyed.

It became a bad year, after a number of rather good years.

Much Has Happened

Much has happened at Takeo since May of 1981 when I sat at the same table in the same government building, a leftover from the days of the French colonial masters.

At the time, the people of the province had started getting out of a long nightmare. First, the war years 1970-75 with the battles swaying to and from and the rain of U.S. bombs. Subsequently, the years of the Pol Pot regime with starvation and terror against their own population, and the war against Vietnam at the eastern border of the province. Subsequently, the offensive on the part of Vietnam and the flight of the Pol Pot army toward the mountains at the Thai border in the west during the winter of 1978-79.

Then came the spring and the summer of 1979 with "the walking skeletons," the hundreds of thousands of starving people who drifted aimlessly about Kampuchea, searching for homes, relatives, food.

When, that summer, I visited Kampuchea for the first time after the Pol Pot regime, I was able to see from the figures and the faces of the people that the situation was disastrous. The summer crops were expected to become extremely poor--in many towns they had consumed the rice that had been set aside for sowing--and in a few months the big famine would begin. The only rescue would be large-scale aid from the outside.

The aid did come. First from Vietnam, later on from the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, still later on from a number of countries in the West. Via a U.N. agency, rice, wheat, medicine, rice for sowing worth approximately 2 billion kronor arrived in Phnom Penh in the course of 2 years. A contribution of the same magnitude was made among refugees at the border between Kampuchea and Thailand.

Out of the hundreds of thousands of tons of food products pouring into Phnom Penh very little reached the Takeo province. Practically all the supplies which arrived there remained in the capital of the province, only negligible amounts reached the villages.

This was the picture I got during my trip around the province in May of 1981, and trips around other provinces gave the same result. In the villages, people survived through their own efforts--the aid from the outside world to Kampuchea primarily stopped the famine in Phnom Penh and other major cities.

Better Living Conditions

Since then, living conditions have improved, at least somewhat. This was the picture I got when I returned to the provincial headquarters at Takeo, to the same district and the same towns and villages I visited nearly 3 years before. The picture is provided by the people themselves, through their own voices and figures.

The conclusions are supported by foreign relief workers who visited the province many times: More schools, better health facilities, more food--there are no dramatic changes, it is a slow progress.

However, the well-thumbed notebooks and the files contain all the figures which reflect the failed hopes. The older generation recalls how things were 15 years ago before Pol Pot and before the war. At the time, they grew rice in areas which were nearly twice as large as the areas they now have. At the time, they sometimes harvested 2 tons per hectare [1 ton: 2,204.6 lbs. 1 hectare: approximately 2.5 acres; translator's note], that is twice as much as now. These were the years of peace when the country exported hundreds of thousands of tons of rice each year.

Mere Dreams

After Pol Pot had been driven out, that memory gave rise to the dream of the future. They would attain the same rice production, the same affluence. However, the years have gone by without any increase in the rice area and the crops.

There are reasons for this, and the reasons are brutally simple. They keep cropping up in the towns in talks with provincial leaders, in the ministry of agriculture in Phnom Penh.

They have now only 1 million draught animals, oxen and buffaloes, in the country. Before the war they had 3.1 million draught animals. Because of the lack of draught animals, they are unable to revive the old fields.

Before the war the country had two phosphate mines, which accounted for nearly all of the requirements of the country for fertilizers. Both were destroyed by the war. They now import 10,000 tons of phosphate annually, one tenth of the amount needed. That implies lower yields.

During the years of the Pol Pot regime, it was primarily the men who were killed or succumbed; what was left was a country of widows. Today, men probably account for only 35-40 percent of the working population.

The consequence has been a lack of labor and lower production rates. This means that the country has not been able to become self-sufficient, as far as rice is concerned, indeed, it is not closer to that goal than it was in 1980.

Different Needs

By self-sufficiency the government in Phnom Penh means a quantity of rice corresponding to 180 kilos of rice per inhabitant per year. On the basis of a population of 7.2 million people, the amount required is 1.3 million tons of dried white rice. Several provincial governments use higher figures--200-220 kilos per person--in calculating the requirements.

However, on the other hand, several of the international foreign aid organizations find that the government of Kampuchea is applying far too high figures.

FAO, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, finds that the proper estimate is 12 kilos per months, thus 144 kilos of white rice per year per person. The annual requirements then become well over 1 million tons.

In December of last year, a group of FAO experts made a study of the damage caused by drought and floods. The result was the first emergency report. The report claimed that the annual figure should be 800,000 tons of rice only, 100,000 tons less than during the year of 1982. Using the FAO figures for the annual needs (well over 1 million tons), this would give a deficit of well over 200,000 tons. The fact that the deficit would become twice as big as in 1982 was alarming enough, the experts stressed. However, the fact that several provinces are affected much more severely than others is even more serious.

Better Than Last Year

Those responsible within the department of agriculture in Phnom Penh have their own figures. The chief of planning, Chea Kong, claims that he has never seen the study made by FAO last December. It has been distributed all over the world but has not reached the government in Phnom Penh.

He has just prepared his own survey, dated 26 January 1984. It shows, he says, that the supply of rice will not become less this year than last year. It is a question of 950,000 tons, i.e. according to his calculations, a deficit of well over 300,000 tons. This means increased malnutrition but not famine and death, he claims.

Many of his figures do not correspond to those I have got in the various provinces. His statistics contain obscurities and inflated random figures.

A person who happens to visit the country will soon know that he will get lost in the maze of figures. It is little comfort that he encounters foreign experts who have been wandering about in the bamboo brushwood for years.

Political Scales

A new group of FAO experts is now gathering data for a new calculation. It is a question of providing a figure for the deficit of rice this year for the so-called donor countries when they get together in a meeting in New York in March. The donor countries are the countries in the West which were behind the large-scale aid during the years of famine, 1979-81. Several countries, such as the United States, Canada, and Australia, do not want to give any further aid to Kampuchea. Political considerations tip the scales. Famine does not carry much weight.

However, some countries, such as France, the Netherlands, Japan, and Sweden, have already promised aid. If these countries increase their contributions and if other countries join in granting aid to Kampuchea, the aid may this year reach a level of nearly 50,000 tons of rice.

Malnutrition

A certain amount of painful drama is associated with the figures representing rice. Area, yield, tons, requirements. For rice is the 'daily bread' here in Kampuchea, as it is in Vietnam and Laos.

In the provinces, one may get to towns where people will tell one that last year, for many months, they had only a few kilos of rice per person, from July right till the first harvest month in November. However, there were so many other things: fish in the ponds, fruit, vegetables.

However, in other areas there is very little food for the population when the rice supplies are depleted. That is when malnutrition sneaks in and increases. International experts estimate that 25 percent of the children in Kampuchea are suffering from malnutrition. Others estimate the figure to be 30 percent, still others 40 percent.

In an air-conditioner office in Phnom Penh, an international expert helps me figure out the cost of 1 ton of imported rice, including freight costs to Phnom Penh. The cost is 400 dollars.

A quantity of 100,000 tons of rice will thus cost 320 million kronor.

Soviets Increasing Assistance

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 21 Feb 84 p 15

[Article by Sven Oste]

- . [Text] "We in the countries of the West are only able to grant humanitarian assistance. We cannot do anything to rebuild the country, we can give no development aid. That has been prohibited for political reasons."

He fell silent and drummed his fingers on the table.

"That thus means that you may save the child from drowning. But you are not allowed to teach the child how to swim?"

He brightened up and nodded his head.

"That is more or less it. Unfortunately, the countries of the East Bloc are not too anxious either to become swimming instructors."

He made an ironic gesture toward The White Hotel, a bit farther down the street. That is one of the hotels in Phnom Penh which is wholly or partly occupied by Russian experts.

We were sitting in a small restaurant located right in the middle of the ruins of a house close to the main street. It was crowded around the small tables

and even more so on the sidewalk where the Kampuchean visitors visiting the restaurant had parked their motorcycles. There must have been a steady stream of motorcycles across the border from Thailand of recent years. The jeans and the T-shirts worn by the Kampuchean guests had come the same way, like the beer that was served in the restaurant. All of them smuggled goods.

"Distorting Mirror"

There are many restaurants in the center of Phnom Penh, all of them experiencing an onrush of motorcycles in the evening. In addition, all of the shops which show affluence and where money is flowing. Hairdressers, liquor shops, TV shops, tailors--everything cramped, messy, with children and dogs swarming all over the place. However, business goes on from early morning till 9 p.m., when the curfew starts.

"Well, what you see here has, of course, got nothing at all to do with the economy of Kampuchea, the life of the people. The center of Phnom Penh is like a distorting mirror, one big grimace. The big market, of course, is even worse. Video, stereo, digital, everything."

He has been working in Kampuchea for 12 months and belongs to the steadily decreasing number of foreign aid workers from Western Europe and the United States. There are now only, approximately 50 of them left. Around 15 of them are attached to the U.N. agency, others to private, primarily church, organizations, some to the Red Cross.

Hair-Splitting

However, in the United Nations, Kampuchea is not represented by the government in Phnom Penh but by the Pol Pot regime which was expelled 5 years ago. The government in exile is now a coalition, under the leadership of the leader of the fifties and sixties, Prince Sihanouk. A number of countries in the West--and the clear majority of the member countries of the United Nations--recognize the Sihanouk government diplomatically, even if it is dominated by Pol Pot's red Khmers, even if the countries in the West most often condemn Pol Pot for the mass murder of the people of Kampuchea during the years 1975-79. (Sweden recognizes neither the Heng Samrin government in Phnom Penh nor the exile government of Sihanouk.)

The political situation has now for a number of years controlled the international aid organizations in Kampuchea. Foodstuffs, medicine, rice and grain for sowing, fertilizers, and the boring of wells--these are examples of permitted aid, efforts to control famine and diseases. However, everything which may be conceived as development aid--efforts to rebuild the country--are politically dangerous and prohibited. For such aid will, of course, support directly the 'unlawful' government in Phnom Penh and its 'masters,' the Vietnamese who have occupied the country.

To the foreign aid workers, the directives from the capitals in the West often are a question of senseless hair-splitting. Is equipment for schools development aid? A factory producing fishing nets? Efforts to repair sea defense works which were destroyed during the floods during the summer season?

Reduction

Since the vast humanitarian efforts during the years 1979-81 the foreign aid organizations have reduced their efforts drastically. A few have annual estimates of more than 1 million dollars, most of them have even lower limits.

In the background is, of course, the political objective of the United States, punishing Vietnam, Western experts living in Phnom Penh point out. However, they wonder whether the government in Washington is actually reaching that goal by reducing the aid in the form of foodstuffs from the West.

After having granted large-scale aid in the form of grain and rice in 1979, Vietnam as well as the Soviet Union have gradually ceased all aid in the form of food supplies to Kampuchea. As far as Vietnam is concerned, the reason is obvious, the people in Kampuchea have as much rice per person per month as the Vietnamese people, even after the poor harvest year of 1983.

Kampuchea has thus not got any major development aid from the West. A comparison between the impressions from the late spring of 1981 and those of the winter of 1984 gives rise to the urgent question: has there been any development at all?

The health situation has improved, that is obvious. As austerely put by the experts, one is now approaching a normal development country situation. With malaria, TB, intestinal worms, malnutrition.

Run Down

In the center of Phnom Penh, the abundance of the smuggling economy is even more noticeable. While distress prevails in small side streets, now as 3 years ago.

Thus real or apparent steps forward.

However, the rice production has not increased during the past years. The area is the same, the yield equally low--and it feels as if the figures and record-high crops of the late sixties were light years away, that is to say, before the war and Pol Pot.

The industrial production has started in 60 of the 70 factories which existed before the war, they state proudly. However, everything is going slowly--with run-down machinery, lack of spare parts, lack of raw materials, lack of power.

Phnom Penh has got three large textile factories. I visited two of them in 1981 and now. Nothing has been developed, nothing has been renewed. The rate of productivity is alarmingly low, in one of the factories 20 machines have stopped operating.

The rubber production is increasing slowly but is still far from the figures and the export successes of the prewar years. The plantations were destroyed during the war, and it takes 10 years to develop new rubber trees.

Fishing in the rivers and in the large lake of Ton Le Sap last year yielded 74,000 tons, nearly three times the quantity of 1980. But in the sixties, approximately 200,000 tons were caught annually.

One may continue in this way, throughout the entire spectrum. The picture becomes somber, with few bright spots.

Same Needs

But what have the socialist states then contributed?

In addition to military aid, Vietnam has contributed technology and medical services personnel. That means that they have exported know-how, though there is a glaring need for it in their own country.

In order to increase its rice production, Kampuchea would need fertilizers, pumps and rice for sowing--everything which Vietnam also lacks. To start an efficient industrial production, new machinery is needed, as well as electricity and raw materials. These are the needs of Kampuchea--but they are also the needs of Vietnam.

The Soviet Union now has approximately 800 'specialists' in Kampuchea, a total figure which comprises the staff at the embassy. During the 5 years since Pol Pot was driven out, Soviet aid to Kampuchea has reached the total level of approximately 3 billion kronor.

The aid granted by the said big power to Kampuchea has thus not exceeded the total amount of Swedish aid to Vietnam during 10 years.

The Soviet Union has expanded the only major port, Kampong Son, and it is still being taken care of by Russian technicians. The largest power station in Phnom Penh has been put back into operation, but the capacity is low and the number of blackouts large. The Soviet Union accounts for the entire oil imports, for the entire vehicle part of Kampuchea, etc. But it has primarily been a question of aid to keep the country alive, not of efforts to build a future there.

Loans Instead

The Soviet Union is now reported to have concluded its epoch of aid, from now on it will be a question of loans, which, of course, in practice means gifts under a different category.

The most recent project is a plant for communication with the Soviet satellites in space.

It is not clear in which way these efforts will benefit the Kampuchean people.

Or as put by a tired international aid worker on a late night:

"One sometimes asks oneself if there is any power, in the West or in the East, which really wants for Kampuchea to become independent and self-sufficient."

KAMPUCHEA

TOURISTS CONTRADICT CLAIM OF SIEM REAP'S CAPTURE

BK251009 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 25 Feb 84

[Text] The AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE has reported from Bangkok that a member of a group of foreign tourists, led by Australian Paul Cummings, which has just returned from a tour of Kampuchea and which visited Siem Reap town, said on 17 February that there were no signs of any disturbances in Siem Reap Town in Western Kampuchea as claimed by the Khmer reactionaries in their propaganda.

As for Hans Tuggener, general manager of Diethelm Travel Agency, he said he found Siem Reap town quiet and did not see any sign of disturbance there. This completely contradicts the propaganda of the Khmer Route who claimed that they had liberated this town.

CSO: 4212/34

KAMPUCHEA

VODK ON NGO PIN SPEECH TO HUMAN RIGHTS BODY

BK070502 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT
6 Mar 84

[Text] Last month, a Democratic Kampuchean delegation led by Ambassador Ngo Pin actively took part in the 40th meeting of the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva.

On 23 February, Ambassador Ngo Pin addressed the meeting. Our Democratic Kampuchean delegation firmly denounced and condemned the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors for their heinous crimes in massacring the Kampuchean people and committing genocide against the Kampuchean race so that they can swallow Kampuchean territory in accordance with their expansionist and aggressive Indochina Federation strategy. The delegation of our Democratic Kampuchea appealed to the international community to continue to pressure the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors to unconditionally withdraw all their aggressor troops from Kampuchea in conformity with the past five UN General Assembly resolutions and the past four resolutions of the Human Rightst Commission so that the Kampuchean people can exercise their sacred rights free from all external interference.

The meeting listened to the speech delivered by our Democratic Kampuchean delegation and expressed warm sympathy with the struggle of our Kampuchean people against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors in the correct and just cause of national liberation for the survival of the Kampuchean nation, people, and race.

On 29 February, the UN Human Rights Commission by an overwhelming majority adopted for the fifth time a resolution calling on the Vietnamese enemy aggressors to unconditionally and immediately withdraw all their aggressor troops from Kampuchea.

CSO: 4212/34

KAMPUCHEA

VODK COMMENTARY DENOUNCES SRV'S 'TRICK'

BK020742 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT
1 Mar 84

[Station commentary: "The Vietnamese Hanoi Aggressors' Trick of a Thief Crying Stop Thieves"]

[Text] At the end of February, the Vietnamese Hanoi aggressors ordered SRV Deputy Foreign Minister Vo Dong Giang to raise a hue and cry at the so-called conference on peace and stability in Southeast Asia that they organized in Hanoi.

In his speech, Vo Dong Giang did not mention the Vietnamese aggression in Kampuchea nor the fact that the over 250,000 Vietnamese aggressor troops are spreading their aggressive war to the Thai border, thus threatening the security of Thailand and the whole of Southeast Asia. On the contrary, Vo Dong Giang just repeatedly spoke about the so-called threat from China. Concerning the problem of Vietnamese aggression against Kampuchea--the root cause of the tense situation in this region--Vo Dong Giang said arrogantly that the Kampuchean problem is not a danger to peace in Southeast Asia. This is just an obsolete trick of a thief crying stop thieves repeatedly played by the Vietnamese Hanoi aggressors, expansionists, annexationists, and exterminators of the Kampuchean race. However, the Vietnamese Le Duan aggressors can deceive no one with this abject trick of a thief crying stop thieves. This is because:

1. The whole world knows well how cruel and barbarous the Vietnamese Hanoi aggressors are. There is much proof of this. This is why the whole world is condemning, pressuring, and demanding the Vietnamese aggressors to withdraw all of their aggressor troops from Kampuchea in accordance with the five UN General Assembly resolutions. Therefore, the Vietnamese aggressors can never turn themselves from aggressors into the victims. The withdrawal of all Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea is a matter of principle relating to the UN Charter and the resolutions of the UN General Assembly--the world's top body. No matter what pretext they resort to, the Vietnamese aggressors can never justify or conceal their aggression in Kampuchea.
2. Everyone is well aware of the Vietnamese aggressors' tricky and cunning nature in their attempt to bring up the so-called threat from China. It is known to all that the Vietnamese aggressors have fabricated this story in a

vicious attempt to justify their aggression against Kampuchea so that they can forever occupy Kampuchea with their armed forces and to conceal their and their Soviet boss' aggressive and expansionist strategies in Southeast Asia and the Asian-Pacific region.

3. What is the source of the current threat to Southeast Asia? The Southeast Asian peoples and countries, the countries which have interests in this region, and all the peoples and countries which cherish peace, justice and independence are well aware that the real threat to security and stability in this region is the Vietnamese Hanoi aggressor backed by the Soviet Union.

This is because:

First, the Vietnamese enemy has sent hundreds of thousands of troops to commit aggression against and occupy Kampuchea and exterminate the Kampuchean race. Second, the Vietnamese aggressor forces which are occupying Kampuchea have continued to launch provocations against and invade Thai border areas. Third, the Vietnamese aggressors have sent hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese nationals to nibble at Kampuchean territory and to exterminate the Kampuchean race within a fixed time so that Vietnam can completely annex Kampuchea and set up an Indochinese Federation for use as a springboard so that Vietnam and its Soviet boss can move further southward in accordance with their regional expansionist strategies. Fourth, Vietnam has served as a military base and a cat's paw of the Soviet Union and an outmost post of the socialist community in Southeast Asia as repeatedly declared by Vietnam.

With only these few events, we can see clearly that Vietnam is the most serious and concrete threat to security, stability and peace in Southeast Asia.

Recently, Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila said that the fate of the free countries in Southeast Asia depends on the fate of Thailand. Like Pakistan, which serves as a fence to protect the Free World and prevent the expansionists from seizing control of the strategic zone in the Persian Gulf, Thailand is the outmost fence for barring the forward drive by the outmost post--Vietnam--of socialism. In its 24 February editorial, the Malaysian paper NANYANG SIANG PAO warned that flames of the Vietnamese war of aggression in Kampuchea are spreading into Thailand and that the strategic cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union is a concrete threat to peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

The Vietnamese Hanoi aggressors cannot deceive world public opinion through any pretext or trick, such as the trick of a thief crying stop thieves. The whole world is well aware of the Vietnamese aggressors' tricky nature and deceitful maneuvers. The world is watching to see whether the Vietnamese aggressors will withdraw all of their aggressor troops from Kampuchea in accordance with the UN General Assembly resolutions. If the Vietnamese aggressors continue to maintain their troops in Kampuchea, the world will continue to pressure them until they consent to withdraw their aggressor troops totally and unconditionally from Kampuchea in accordance with the five UN General Assembly resolutions and the statement of the International Conference on Kampuchea so that the Kampuchean people will be allowed to decide their own destiny without any outside interference. Only by pressuring the Vietnamese aggressors to withdraw all of their troops from Kampuchea in accordance with the UN General Assembly resolutions can Kampuchea again enjoy peace and security and can Southeast Asia enjoy peace, security, and stability.

KAMPUCHEA

VODK HAILS ROLE OF WOMEN IN RESISTANCE STRUGGLE

BK080524 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT
7 Mar 84

[Station editorial: "The Kampuchean Women Join the International Women's Day Celebration With the Pledge to Continue Contributing With the Entire Kampuchean People to the Struggle and Fight Against the Vietnamese Enemy Aggressors Until They Are Out of Kampuchea"]

[Text] Eight March 1984 is the anniversary of International Women's Day. This is the 6th year our Democratic Kampuchean women have participated in commemorating International Women's Day. This is also the 6th year they have participated in struggling with all Kampuchean people to safeguard the nation against the war of aggression, territorial expansion, and race extermination of the Le Duan Vietnamese enemy aggressors; to defend and safeguard the Kampuchean nation and race; and to ensure that Kampuchea remains independent, peaceful, neutral and nonaligned. This year we celebrate International Women's Day as our Kampuchean people's struggle rapidly advances against the Le Duan Vietnamese enemy aggressors, who have been bogged down for the past 5 years. Our struggle has made them even more bogged down and is pushing them further toward defeat. Our Kampuchean women have actively and vigorously contributed to this on every battlefield.

Over the past more than 5 years, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors have committed untold crimes, spread destruction, and caused the most painful suffering for our Kampuchean people and nation. They have used every method to indiscriminately exterminate our Kampuchean people. They have used summary execution, plunder and destruction to ruin our economy; have created famine to kill off our people; and have even used poisonous chemicals and biological weapons to exterminate innocent Kampucheans everywhere. Particularly for our Kampuchean women, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors have mistreated them; trampled on their honor; and raped them like animals, regardless of whether these women were pregnant, old, or had just given birth, or whether they were only 12-13-year-old girls. These great crimes perpetrated by the Vietnamese enemy aggressors against our Kampuchean people and women do not only constitute a violation of human rights and ordinary oppression, but also constitute a criminal attempt to exterminate the Kampuchean race so Vietnam can swallow the entire Kampuchean territory and make it their own as they had previously done with Kampuchea kraom. However, despite the Vietnamese enemy aggressors' great destruction

and barbarous crimes, our Kampuchean women have absolutely not bowed down in submission. Our Kampuchean women have remained with us and stood shoulder to shoulder with our men to courageously struggle against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors in every form and method, both in the front and rear battlefields. Our Kampuchean women have roles and tasks everywhere. Currently, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors are certainly facing increasing difficulties and are more and more bogged down. However, in reality and true to their nature as brutal and savage expansionists and aggressors who are obsessed with the ambition of exterminating our Kampuchean people and annexing our territory, the Le Duan Vietnamese enemy aggressors are not going to withdraw their aggressor troops from Kampuchea easily. They have persisted in carrying on in the military field through intensifying the barbarous extermination of our Kampuchean people through every means, including deceitful and tricky diplomatic and political maneuvers. Therefore, our Kampuchean women must continue to unite with our entire Kampuchean people and Democratic Kampuchean national army and guerrillas to fight and constantly and energetically undertake all kinds of tasks, both in the front and rear battlefields, to contribute to the struggle to push the Le Duan Vietnamese enemy aggressors, expansionists and race exterminators quickly out of Kampuchea and to contribute to the historic task of defending and safeguarding our Kampuchean nation, territory and race. Through this, our Kampuchean women will contribute to defending the rights, honor and prestige of womanhood all over the world and also contribute to defending peace and stability in Southeast Asia and the world.

On the occasion of the International Women's Day celebration, our Kampuchean women would like to appeal to the world's women, peoples, governments and peace, justice, and independence-loving countries the world over to more actively and vigorously continue all kinds of assistance and support--political, diplomatic, materiel, moral and spiritual--to the Kampuchean people's just struggle against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and to raise their voices in condemning the Le Duan Vietnamese enemy aggressors' most criminal acts against Kampuchean women, children and the entire Kampuchean people. In particular, the world's peoples are asked to unite in pressuring the Vietnamese enemy aggressors to unconditionally withdraw all their aggressor troops from Kampuchea in accordance with the resolutions of the last five UN General Assembly sessions. Only when the Vietnamese enemy aggressors withdraw all their aggressor forces from Kampuchea as prescribed by the UN General Assembly resolutions can the Kampuchean problem be justly, correctly and definitively resolved and can the Kampuchean women, as well as the entire Kampuchean people, recover their rights to fully determine the destiny and future for themselves and for their country and nation as do women and people of every country the world over.

CSO: 4212/34

KAMPUCHEA

BRIEFS

KANDAL YOUTHS DEFENSE CONTRIBUTION--During the past 5 years, the Kandal Provincial Youth Association has actively and vigorously contributed to national defense and construction. In fact, over 36,000 of our youths have become members of the association or volunteered to join the army. [Excerpt] [BK281007 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 27 Feb 84]

CHINH NOTE TO SAMRIN--Recently, Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP and chairman of the Council of State, received a thank you message from Comrade Truong Chinh, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the SRV Council of State. The message said, among other things: I would like to express sincere thanks for the good wishes you sent me on my 77th birthday. I am very glad at the great successes in every field recorded by the Kampuchean people in their miraculous rebirth during the past 5 years. I wish the Kampuchean people, under the leadership of the KPRP, other great successes in defending and building their country and appropriately contributing to increasing the strength of the three Indochinese countries for the cause of peace in Southeast Asia and the world. May you enjoy good health and achieve success in your noble tasks. [Text] [BK251035 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 24 Feb 84]

TAKEO PROVINCE SETTLEMENT--In order to further expand the cultivated acreage over that of previous years, people in various localities of Takeo Province, such as Tram Kak, Kus, Samraong, Trapeang Thom Khang Tbong, Trapeang Thom Khang Cheung and O Communes have volunteered to live in a new settlement at the foot of Damrei Romeal Mountain, 20 km from the district town of Tram Kak, Takeo Province. By the beginning of February, they have cleared 1,200 hectares of bush land for the construction of living quarters, a school, a hospital and village and commune offices. They are now building houses and roads to facilitate communications. [Text] [BK021503 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 2 Mar 84]

CSO: 4212/34

YOUTH UNION ISSUES INSTRUCTION ON ANNIVERSARY

BK141332 Vientiane KPL in English 0925 GMT 14 Feb 84

[Text] Vientiane, 14 Feb (KPL)—The Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union [LPRYU], in view to prepare for its forthcoming 29th anniversary celebration (April 14), recently, issued an instruction to youth institutions throughout the country.

In view to make the nationwide celebration meaningful, the executive committee of the LPRYU instructed the following:

--Concrete ways are to be done regarding the raising of the political awareness of the youth organization's members and non-members so that they will see the militant solidarity in the struggle of the party as well as the good tradition of the nation and the youth. To make the youths realize that they are the party's proud and trusty future of the nation. To do this, they must prove in deeds in forging themselves through the revolutionary tasks of socialist defence and construction.

--The youths are to exert efforts in fulfilling various targets in socio-economic building works so to improve the well-being of the peoples both materially and spiritually. They are to be the spearheads in transforming the collective way of life in the field of agricultural production and other and to actively take part in the three revolutions.

--On the organizational work, attempts must be done to improve the quality of members and to expand membership through consistant contact with the public and to sort out among members, the best achieved ones to become members of the party.

--While the celebrations are being observed, youths must raise their revolutionary vigilance.

CSO: 4200/566

BRIEFS

VIETNAM-AIDED DAM--Vientiane, 1 Mar (OANA/KPL)--The representative of the agriculture, irrigation and agriculture cooperative service of the northern province of Oudomsai, recently, signed a memorandum with the representative of the agricultural service of the Vietnamese province of Ha Nam Ninh on the construction of a medium-size dam at Vangtham-Ghuang Tamao. This joint project is to be carried out during this dry season, and through this, it is expected that the relation of friendship between the two twin provinces will be further reinforced. [Text] [BK031625 Vientiane KPL in English 0905 GMT 1 Mar 84]

SRV DELEGATION HOMEBOUND--Vientiane, 2 Mar (OANA/KPL)--The delegation of the Ideological School of the Communist Party of Vietnam CC led by its director, Nguyen Duc Binh who is also member of the CPV CC left here on March 1st, after having paid a ten-day official friendship visit to Laos. While in Laos, the delegation called on Sisomphon Lovansai, Political Bureau member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party CC and vice-chairman of the People's Supreme Assembly, met the responsibles [as received] of the Ideological School of the LPRP CC and visited several places of interest in Vientiane and in the southern Champassak Province. The delegation was seen off at the airport by Chanmi Douangbouthdi, member of the LPRP CC and director of the LPRP CC's Ideological School and other high-ranking officials. The ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Vietnam to Laos was also on hand. [Text] [BK031625 Vientiane KPL in English 0922 GMT 2 Mar 84]

HANOI CITY DELEGATION--Vientiane, 2 Mar (KPL)--The delegation of Hanoi City led by Tran Vy, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam CC [and] major of Hanoi City, on March 1 arrived in Vientiane. Welcoming the delegation at the airport were Khambou Sounisai, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party CC, [and] chairman of the administrative committee of Vientiane prefecture, Dr Siho Bannavong, vice-chairman of the said committee and officials. Nguyen Xuan, Vietnamese ambassador to Laos, was also on hand. [Text] [BK031625 Vientiane KPL in English 0926 GMT 2 Mar 84]

SOVIET AMITY DELEGATION HOMEBOUND--Vientiane, 2 Mar (KPL)--USSR-Laos Friendship Association delegation led by its president Vladimir Petrovich Maslin, who is also first vice-chairman of the Soviet Fund for Peace, left here on February 29. Bidding farewell to the delegation at the airport were Khamsouk Sai-gnaseng, member of the party CC, minister to the Council of Ministers'

Office, [and] president of the Laos-USSR Friendship Association and other officials. V. Sobchenko, Soviet ambassador to Laos, was also on hand. [Text] [BK031625 Vientiane KPL in English 0928 GMT 2 Mar 84]

PRK DELEGATION'S ACTIVITIES--Vientiane, 2 Mar (KPL)--Somlat Chanthamat, member of the party CC [and] head of the Propaganda and Training Board of the party CC, on February 29, received here Un Dara, director general of Radio and Television of Kampuchea and his delegation. S. Chanthamat, on the occasion, highly appreciated the visit of the said Kampuchea delegation which contributes to the further consolidation of special solidarity, and the all-round cooperation between Laos and Kampuchea. The two sides also exchanged views on many problems including the cooperation in the field of radio and television in the short and long term. [Text] [BK031625 Vientiane KPL in English 0932 GMT 2 Mar 84]

MEMORANDUM WITH CSSR--Vientiane, 3 Mar (KPL)--A memorandum on the exploration and exploitation of gem mine for 1984 was signed here on March 1 between the Geology and Mine Department of the Lao Ministry of Industry, Handicrafts and Forestry and the Intergeo Praha Company of Czechoslovakia. Signing for the Lao side was Bosaikhham Vongdala, head of the Geology and Mine Department, and for the Czechoslovakia side was Krejeirik Bir [name as received], head of the Intergeo Praha Company. Nouuai Sithisai, deputy-minister of industry, handicrafts and forestry, also witnessed the signing ceremony. [Text] [BK041239 Vientiane KPL in English 0915 GMT 3 Mar 84]

GDR HEALTH DELEGATION--Vientiane, 3 Mar (KPL)--A Public Health [Ministry] delegation of GDR led by its vice-minister, Rudolf Mueller, on March 1 arrived here at the invitation of the Lao Ministry of Public Health. Welcoming the delegation at the airport were Pro Vannalet Latsapho, vice minister of public health and other ministry officials. Christian Zeisberg [name as received], charge d'affaires A.I. of the GDR Embassy to Laos, was also on hand. [Text] [BK041239 Vientiane KPL in English 0917 GMT 3 Mar 84]

RADIO ANTENNA FROM SRV--Vientiane, 28 Feb (KPL)--Khamdai Douangthanouson, vice-director of the propaganda service in charge of news, and radio service of Xieng Khouang Province, recently, received [as an] aid a medium wave radio station antenna from Vietnam. Presided over the ceremony was Bansaa Detvongson, member of the party standing committee [and] acting chairman of Xieng Khouang Province administrative committee. [Text] [BK020613 Vientiane KPL in English 0918 GMT 28 Feb 84]

JAPANESE MEDICAL AID--Vientiane, 29 Feb (OANA-KPL)--A contract on the installation of drug manufacture in Laos signed here between the representatives of the governments of Laos and Japan. According to the document signed, Japanese Government is to allocate a sum of 700 million yens to be used in the first phase of building of the manufacture. Signing the contract were, on the Lao side, Deputy Minister for Public Health Dr Ponmek Dalaloi, and the Japanese side, the ambassador of Japan to Laos Yoshinao Odaka. [Text] [BK020613 Vientiane KPL in English 0906 GMT 29 Feb 84]

IDEOLOGICAL SCHOOL DELEGATION--Vientiane, 29 Feb (KPL)--A delegation [of] professors of the ideological school of the Communist Party of Vietnam led by Nguyen Tan Xo, on February 28, paid a visit to Sopha Khotphouthon, deputy-head of propaganda and training board of the party CC. The Lao and Vietnamese sides, on the occasion, exchanged views and lessons concerning the functioning of ideological school. The Vietnamese delegation arrived here on February 27. [Text] [BK020613 Vientiane KPL in English 0911 GMT 29 Feb 84]

DELEGATION'S RETURN FROM INDONESIA--Vientiane, 6 Feb (KPL)--A delegation, led by Son Khamvanvongsa, acting-chairman of the state committee for news agency, newspaper, radio and television, returned home, on Feb 4, after having participated at the ministerial conference of the non-aligned countries, held in Jakarta of Indonesia at the end of last month. The delegation was met at the airport by Thongsavat Yamani, Bouaban Volakhoun, Teng Songsai, vice chairmen of state committee for news agency, news paper, radio and television and other officials. The conference which was attended by delegations of 57 members of non-aligned countries and 7 international organizations as observers, unanimously agreed on the need to set up new international information and communication order in view to fight the effect of hostile news originated from the transnational agencies detrimental to the undeveloped countries. Further efforts for solidarity among the news agencies of non-aligned and developing countries were appealed by the conference in view to concreticize the said new order. [Text] [BK090028 Vientiane KPL in English 0915 GMT 6 Feb 84]

EDUCATIONAL TALKS WITH SRV--Vientiane, 16 Feb (OANA/KPL)--Officials of the Lao Ministry of Education and the visiting delegation of the Committee for Educational Social Sciences Research of Vietnam, yesterday, held their talks here. Leading the Lao side was Outtama Chounlamani, deputy minister for education, and the Vietnamese side was headed by Yu Khieu, head of the said committee and of the delegation. Issues pertaining to the mutual cooperation in the educational field, including education social science research and the publication of textbooks were discussed in an atmosphere of cordiality and understanding. [Text] [BK171019 Vientiane KPL in English 0859 GMT 16 Feb 84]

EDUCATION PROTOCOL WITH SRV--Vientiane, 14 Feb (OANA/KPL)--Outtama Chounlamani, deputy-minister of education of the Lao PDR and Nguyen Dinh Tu, minister of higher and vocational education of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, on Feb 13, signed here a protocol on educational work. The protocol reads that Laos and Vietnam are to cooperate and exchange delegations of experts of higher and vocational education. Also present at the signing ceremony, were Phiang Sisoulat, Lao deputy-minister of education and Bui Van Thanh, charge d'affairs of the SRV to Laos. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0936 GMT 14 Feb 84]

USSR-AIDED IDEOLOGICAL SCHOOL--Vientiane, 15 Feb (OANA/KPL)--The Communist Party of the Soviet Union will assist Laos in building the high party and state ideological school in accordance with the inter-governmental cooperation agreement. A ceremony for the signing of the minute of the construction works was organized here in February 14, and documents on design of the

school were handed over to the Lao side. Signing for the Lao side was Latsavang Vongphanchan, member of the directory board of the school, and, for the Soviet side, was Forokov, representative of the Soviet Ministry of University. [Text] [BK171019 Vientiane KPL in English 0913 GMT 15 Feb 84]

SWEDISH FORESTRY ASSISTANCE--Vientiane, 25 Feb (OANA-KPL)--The Government of Sweden will provide 34 million of Swedish crowns for the forestry development and 3.4 million for the staff training as an nonrefundable aid to Laos for 1984-86 as stipulated in the cooperation and assistance agreement signed here on Feb 24. The Swedish Government is engaging in the Muangmai integrated project for the forestry development. The project site which is 150 kilometers south of Vientiane has its own training center. Signing for the Lao Government on this occasion was Carl Erhard Lildabl [name as received], charge d' affaires of the Swedish Embassy to Laos. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0910 GMT 25 Feb 84 BK]

SRV GEOLOGICAL DELEGATION--Vientiane, 21 Feb (OANA-KPL)--The Vietnamese geological delegation led by Tran Duc Luong, alternate member of the Communist Party of Vietnam CC and head of the general department of geology, arrived here on February 20, for an official and friendship visit at the invitation of the Lao Ministry of Industry, Handicrafts and Forestry. Together with its Lao counterparts, the Vietnamese delegation, during the one week visit to Laos, will review the bilateral cooperation between the two countries in the field of geology and will exchange views with the Lao side for the setting up of the 1984 cooperation plan. At its arrival, the delegation was welcomed at the airport by Maisouk Seisompheng, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Cc, minister of industry, handicrafts and forestry and chairman of the Lao-Vietnamese committee for the economic, scientific and technical cooperation and other high ranking officials. The charge d'affaires and the economic counsellor of the Vietnamese Embassy to Laos, Vui Van Thanh and Dam Xuan Dung, were also on hand. [Text] [BK211231 Vientiane KPL in English 0906 GMT 21 Feb 84]

SRV-PRK TREATY FUNCTION--Vientiane, 18 Feb (OANA-KPL)--The Kampuchean Ambassador Nguon Phansiphon and the charge d'affaires of the Vietnamese Embassy to Laos, Bui Van Thanh, organized at the Kampuchean Embassy on Feb 17 a get-together with the Lao and foreign journalists and media workers to mark the 5th anniversary of the Vietnamese-Kampuchean peace, friendship and cooperation treaty (Feb 18, 1979-Feb 18, 1984). Both men, on this occasion, recapitulated the importance and significance of the treaty and revealed the results of its implementation. They also stressed that the signing of the treaty and its concertization fully responded to the aspiration of the peoples of both countries and it also responded to the imperative of the cooperation between the two countries. The diplomatic envoys of Vietnam and Kampuchea also pledged to do their utmost to strengthen the relations of friendship, special solidarity, combatant alliance and the all-round cooperation between their two countries as well as among Laos, Vietnam and Kampuchea. The get together was attended by Bounteng Vongsai, vice-chairman of the State Committee for News Agency, News Paper, Radio and Television, and a large number of Lao and foreign journalists. [Text] [BK211231 Vientiane KPL in English 0927 GMT 18 Feb 84]

AUSTRALIAN COOPERATION AGREEMENTS--Vientiane, 18 Feb (OANA-KPL)--Australia is to provide to Laos and [as received] unrefundable aids amounting 4,050,000 Australian dollars in repairing heavy machineries and in the construction of irrigation networks as stipulated in two separated cooperation agreements signed on Feb 17 at the office of the Lao State Planning Committee. The first agreement which involved the programme of repairation of heavy machineries was signed on the behalf of the Lao Government by Vice-minister of construction, Vanthong Thammavongsa and the second agreement, which involved the construction of the irrigation networks in Kaoleo, Thalat, Kok Kiang, Veunxham and Dongbang, was signed on the behalf of the Lao Government by deputy-minister of agriculture, Khamsing Sai-gnakon. Signing both agreements on the behalf of the Australian side was Philip Frederic Peter, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Australia to Laos. The signing ceremony was attended by Dr Somphavan Inthavong, vice-chairman of the State Planning Committee, and other high ranking officials. [Text] [BK211231 Vientiane KPL in English 0923 GMT 18 Feb 84]

CSO: 4200/566

MUSA TO QUIT PERAK AND JOHORE POSTS

Penang STAR in English 29 Jan 84 p 3

[Text]

PARIT BUNTAR, Sat. — Datuk Musa Hitam said today that he intends to step down as chief of Perak and Johore Umno soon.

"It's time I give local party leaders the chance to assume the posts to which I was appointed some years ago," he said.

The acting Prime Minister said the Menteris Besar of the two States had been "tested" and their performance records were found to be good.

"Also, the political situation has returned to normal and if I were to hold on for too long, the people will

think local Umno leaders are not ready to shoulder the responsibilities," he added.

Datuk Musa was addressing Umno divisional and branch chiefs at Dewan Merdeka here this afternoon. He had earlier attended a two-hour closed-door meeting of the Parti Buntar division administrative committee of which he is chairman.

(The division has been suspended since April 1980 by the Umno Supreme Council following an internal crisis).

Datuk Musa said he pro-

posed to lift the suspension "unconditionally" in April. He then gave all 54 branches of the division the green light to hold their annual meeting and elections from today.

The announcement, although not totally unexpected, was greeted with loud applause from all those present.

The Umno deputy president said that when he took over the division early last year, the situation was already well under control.

"Since everything is now very calm, I have decided that the division be rehabilitated," he said.

Datuk Musa reminded party members in the division to be calm and act rationally during branch elections. Otherwise, he said, the division would remain in "bondage" and go down on record as the longest suspended Umno division.

He said that every member must follow the set rules and uphold the party constitution.

"And those who aspire to be branch or divisional chief should offer themselves as candidates instead of trying to grab power," he added.

CSO: 4200/543

REDISTRICTING WILL INCREASE RACIAL IMBALANCE: DAP SECRETARY GENERAL

Penang STAR in English 30 Jan 84 p 8

[Text]

MALACCA, Sun. — Political imbalances between the Malays and non-Malays would be more pronounced under the proposed constituency redelinections, DAP secretary-general Lim Kit Siang said today.

He said that the imbalances would change the whole structure of the political power, economic, educational and cultural rights of the people in the 1980s and 1990s.

The redelinection exercise conducted by the Election Commission would further reduce the political position of the non-Malay voters, he added.

Mr Lim, who is MP for Kota Melaka, said that following the last exercise in 1974 the Chinese community in Malacca, which constituted more than 20 per cent of the total State electorate, was represented by 20 per cent (four out of 20 seats) after the 1982 general election.

"The new proposals will reduce this to 13 per cent because there will be only three State Assembly seats where the Chinese form a majority," he said.

In Negri Sembilan, he said, after the general election, there were five out of 24 seats with Chinese majorities, constituting 21 per cent.

But under the proposed redelinection, although the total number of seats would increase to 28, the number of Chinese majority seats would fall to only four, he said.

"This means a reduction from 21 to 14 per cent, although the Chinese in Negri Sembilan constitute 40 per cent of the electorate," said Mr Lim.

CSO: 4200/543

MALAYSIA

BRIEFS

PETRONAS CHAIRMAN--Kuala Lumpur, 15 Feb (AFP)--Raja Tan Sri Mohar, special economic adviser to the prime minister, has been appointed chairman of Malaysia's national oil corporation, Petronas, with immediate effect, it was announced today. Raja Mohar, who is also the chairman of the state-owned Malaysian Airline System (MAS), confirmed today that he was recently approached by Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad to head Petronas and he had accepted. He declined to comment on the other possible top management changes in Petronas. The BUSINESS TIMES reported yesterday quoting sources that the present petronas Chairman Tan Sri Abdullah Salleh, Who also doubles as chief executive, would stay on and retain his chief executive post. [Text] [BK161546 Hong Kong AFP in English 0718 GMT 15 Feb 84]

REGULATING TRAVEL TO IRAN--Visits by Malaysians and Iranians to each other's country will be "regularised and regulated" under an agreement to be worked out soon, Foreign Minister Tan Sri Ghazali Shafie said yesterday. He told reporters here that such a pact was necessary to avoid problems that could be caused by the making of statements or uttering of slogans about "exporting" the Iranian revolution and the like. "We are now entering into negotiations to regularise and regulate people-to-people contacts between Malaysia and Iran," he said. Tan Sri Ghazali visited Iran about a week ago to get further assurances that the Islamic republic would not try to "export" its revolutionary ideas to Malaysia. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 31 Jan 84 p 2]

CSO: 6200/543

THAILAND

'ECONOMIC WAR' TO BE WAGED AGAINST CPM

BK040154 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 4 Mar 84 p 1

[Text] The Fourth Army will wage economic war against Communist Party of Malaya [CPM] guerrillas in a bid to starve them of food, medicines and other essentials.

Regional Commander Lt Gen Wanchai Chitchamnong told the BANGKOK POST he regarded economic sanctions a vital element--in addition to military operations--in forcing the guerrillas to surrender.

Meanwhile, military sources said it was likely Malaysian forces would join an imminent suppression campaign.

Lt Gen Wanchai said the economic measures would be enforced in areas covering Betong, Banang Sata and Yaha districts of Yala Province and Tanto District of Narathiwat Province where guerrilla activity was high.

Despite continuous suppression drives, he said, the guerrillas still collected taxes from villagers and if the situation was allowed to continue, the CPM's range of influence could only increase.

Sources said about 1,400 guerrillas were active in the target areas and they were boosting their revenue by charging rubber plantations protection money. Similar payments were also being demanded of tin mines and the sources said the CPM made millions every year from miners in the Tham Thalu area straddling the border.

To enforce the economic sanctions, Lt Gen Wichai said, more checkpoints would be set up on the main Yala-Betong highway linking Betong salient with the rest of the country. In addition, curfews had proven effective and could be imposed in selected areas.

The sources said the recent 44th meeting of the Thai-Malaysian regional committee had resulted in closer cooperation in the exchange of information.

They said combined operations would be coordinated by teams of liaison officers.

CSO: 4200/565

THAILAND

BANGKOK POST ON VIETNAMEZATION OF KAMPUCHEA

BK290239 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 29 Feb 84 p 4

[Editorial "Vietnamization of Kampuchea"]

[Text] In historical terms, the envelopment of most of Kampuchea into Vietnam has not taken long. It was only about 250 years ago—an eyeblink in even recorded history—that Ho Chi Minh City was called Prey Nokor and was ruled and inhabited by Khmers. In those last 250 years, half of Kampuchea has become part of Vietnam on all the maps of the world. And in the last five years, the other half of Kampuchea has fallen so heavily under the Vietnamese sway that the physical survival of the nation of the Khmers is truly in jeopardy.

If historical precedents mean anything at all, the physical survival of the Khmer people is also in jeopardy.

The Vietnamese, it is true, have spent many of the past 2,000 years fighting for their national survival, chiefly from the various rulers of the Middle Kingdom. But it is equally true that during that same time, the Vietnamese have not only threatened the survival of many other peoples, they have expanded their country at the expense of those peoples. The worst of all their expansionist wars was waged at the expense of the Cham, a race virtually wiped out by Vietnam's armies not so many hundreds of years ago in what was—not to mince words—a genocidal war.

Now equally threatened by Vietnamese expansionism are the nation of Kampuchea and the Khmer people.

It is clear that Hanoi is intentionally moving large numbers of Vietnamese citizens into Kampuchea. Estimates of the number already there vary, but it is an unimportant part of the story. The important part is that Vietnam is insisting that large numbers of colonists be allowed into Kampuchea to perform tasks ranging from marketing to fishing to farming. All of this is in addition to the presence of a huge military garrison and an extremely large number of Vietnamese "advisers" which participates in virtually every decisionmaking process in the nation of the Khmers.

In years past, the Viet people seized lands belonging to Laos, numerous mountain tribes, Chams and Khmers. The most common tactic used was to infiltrate common Vietnamese, then move the army up to "protect" the Vietnamese. In Kampuchea, as in Champa, the tactic was reversed. Never mind. The goal remains the same: to secure a geographical area for ethnic Vietnamese without regard to the local people.

One thing, however, has changed, and that is that in the late 20th century the world community cannot plead ignorance because of distance and poor communications. The brave freedom fighters of the Khmer resistance alone cannot hope to stop the Vietnamese juggernaut. The entire people of Kampuchea number some six or seven million and they are basically helpless against the more than 52 million of Vietnam. The killing of Kampuchea, and of Kampucheans, can be halted only by the demand of all sympathetic people of the world.

The alternative is simple and awful: another land and another people will become all-Vietnamese. The Khmer will be forced to flee. Or they will die. Or they will be expelled. Or they will be killed. And the land of the Khmer, like the land of the Cham, in another eyeblink of history, will also become the land of the Vietnamese.

CSO: 4200/565

THAILAND

BRIEFS

MALAYSIA BUYS MORE RICE--Malaysia yesterday agreed to buy another 180,000 tons of Thai rice in addition to the 300,000 tons which it contracted to buy last November, the foreign trade department announced yesterday. The agreement was reached following discussions between officials of the Commerce Ministry and the visiting Malaysian Trade Mission led by Dato Haji Basir Ismail, chairman of the Malaysian National Paddy and Rice Authority. The department said the 175,000 tons of old contract and the additional 180,000 tons were altogether worth about 2,077 million baht. [Excerpts] [BK230759 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 22 Feb 84 p 15]

OPERATION AGAINST CPM REMNANTS--Yala--Combined government forces yesterday began a week-long search-and-destroy operation of remnants of the Communist Party of Malaya (CPM) and Muslim terrorists in parts of three southern provinces. The operation was launched following reports of insurgents in some of the areas, sources said. The areas which are the targets of the operation, codenamed "Taksin 4305/27," are in Raman, Yaha and Banang Star districts in Yala; Ruso, Si Sakhon and Bacho districts in Narathiwat, and Kapo sub-district in Pattani, according to the sources. The operation, conducted by Civilian-Police-Military 43, is using about 200 policemen and soldiers and will continue until March 9. The operations follow a joint military offensive launched by Thailand and Malaysia against outlaws along their common border in January. [Text] [BK030347 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 3 Mar 84 p 3]

INDUSTRY SECRETARY'S TRANSFER--A second blow struck Permanent Secretary for Industry Wira Susangkorakan in less than a week yesterday when he received an order from the Prime Minister's Office transferring him to an inactive post there. Industry Minister Op Wasurat told reporters that the transfer order was effective as of February 1 while Deputy Permanent Secretary Praphat Chakkaphak was appointed to replace him. Wira, asked for his reaction last evening, said he would not appeal the order since "I have yet to know the details of allegations against me." In a surprise order on Monday, Op set up a committee to investigate Wira who was charged with several allegations over "disciplinary violations" including possible dishonest practices which caused damage to the country. Wira said he remained confused on the allegations of dishonesty and malfeasance against him but "I guess they're about my future, and not past, practices in my duty." [Excerpt] [BK050119 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 3 Feb 84 p 1]

PRISONERS ACCORD WITH ITALY--Thailand yesterday signed a prisoner exchange treaty with Italy which will affect about 40 inmates held in the jails of both countries. The treaty was signed by Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila and visiting Italian Deputy Foreign Minister Bruno Corti. Italy is the fifth country to sign such a treaty with Thailand. The treaty will have to be ratified by the Parliament before it goes into effect. An official of the Interior Ministry said that there are now 32 Italian prisoners in Thailand. Most were convicted on drug charges. [Excerpt] [BK290359 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 29 Feb 84 p 6]

5 BILLION BAHT TRADE DEFICIT--Thailand suffered a trade deficit of 5,000 million baht in January when it exported 13,000 million baht worth of goods while its imports amounted to 18,000 million baht. The exports marked only a slightly over 10 percent increase while imports showed a 20 percent rise over the same period of last year. These figures were studied by senior officials of the Finance Ministry and the Bank of Thailand to review the results of monetary measures announced in December and the curbs on credit growth by commercial banks introduced late last month to improve the country's trade and balance-of-payments situation. Those at the meeting included Finance Permanent Secretary Dr Phanat Simasathian, director of the Fiscal Policy Office, Kamchon Sathirakun; Central Bank Assistant Governor Chawalit Thanachanan and Deputy Permanent Secretary Phuchong Phengsi. The measures were announced because the country suffered a trade deficit of 80,000 million baht and a balance-of-payments deficit of 20,000 million baht. [Excerpt] [BK290159 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 29 Feb 84 p 9]

AID TO KAREN REFUGEES--Thailand will ask Burma to provide assistance to the over 7,000 Karen civilians who are seeking refuge on the Thai border from fightings between Burmese Government troops and the Karen rebels, a senior military official said yesterday. Col Somsak Sisuphanadit of the Joint Operations Centre of the Supreme Command told a news conference that Thailand would welcome food supplies from Rangoon for the refugees. He said since these refugees were from Burma, Thailand should not be left alone to take care of them. About 7,000 Karens had fled the fightings between the Burmese troops and the Karen National Union (KNU) since last month into Thailand. They are now staying in 12 encampments in Tha Song Yang District of Tak, he said. Col Somsak said the Karens were suffering from food shortage because of the prolonged fightings. The Burmese Government forces are now poised to strike at the Karen rebels' main stronghold at Maw Po Kay opposite Tha Song Yang District. The attack is likely to send more Karens fleeing into Thailand. Col Somsak also reiterated the policy of the Thai Government not to allow any armed foreign forces to use Thai territory as a springboard for their military action. [Text] [BK240250 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 24 Feb 84 p 3]

CSO: 4200/565

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

BRIEFS

BORDER GUARDS DECORATED--Hanoi, VNA, 2 March--Defence Minister General Van Tien Dung today pinned the military exploits order, first class, on the "determined to win" banner of the Vietnamese border guards as an award from the State Council on their brilliant achievements in the struggle to defend Vietnam's borders during the past 5 years. The order pinning took place at a ceremony held today in honour of the 25th anniversary of the border guards (3 March). The ceremony was also attended by Tran Dong, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and vice-minister of the interior; Major-General Nguyen Nam Khanh, member of the party CC and deputy chief of the general political department and other senior officers and officials. Speaking on this occasion, General Van Tien Dung called on all border guard units to maintain high vigilance over any plots of sabotage and aggression of the Chinese expansionists and other reactionary forces against Vietnam, and stand ready to firmly defend Vietnam's borders. Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong has sent a congratulatory letter to the Vietnamese border guards on the occasion of their tradition day. [Text] [OW021637 Hanoi VNA in English 1512 GMT 2 Mar 84]

VPA RADAR SERVICE EXPLOITS--Hanoi, VNA, 3 March--In 25 years of building and fighting, the radar service [word indistinct] People's Army (VPA), upholding its tradition of hard learning, training and courageous fighting, has made rapid progress in all fields. In the fight against the U.S. war of destruction, the service foiled all strategic and tactical moves of the U.S. Air Force making a worthy contribution to the victory over U.S. war escalation strategy. Particularly, in late December 1972, together with other services of the VPA, the radar service played an important part in shattering the U.S. imperialists' air blitz over Hanoi, Haiphong and other places in northern Vietnam, leading to the "Dien Bien Phu victory in the air." The service was also a very active component of the forces that won the final victory over the U.S. aggression in spring 1975. The radar service was 500 times decorated with military orders and military exploit orders or various categories and in 1976 was honoured a "hero unit" by the government. [Text] [OW032212 Hanoi VNA in English 1558 GMT 3 Mar 84]

RADAR FORCE CEREMONY--On 1 March, the Radar Force held a solemn ceremony to mark its 25th anniversary. At the ceremony, Senior General Le Trong Tan, on behalf of the Military Commission of the CPV Central Committee and the Ministry of National Defense, pinned the Military Exploit Order, First Class, on the military flag of the Radar Force. This order is awarded by the Council of State to the Radar Force for its achievements scored during the past 4 years in implementing the movement to develop the fine character and increase the fighting strength of the People's Armed Forces. The senior general afterward highly commended the Radar Force for its achievements during the past 25 years and pointed out its tasks in the new revolutionary stage. [Text] [BK031049 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 2 Mar 84]

PUBLIC SECURITY UNITS VISITED--Today's AN NINH THU DO [CAPITAL'S SECURITY] carries photos and reports on Comrade Pham Hung's [member of the CPV Political Bureau Central Committee] visits to the public security services of Hai Ba Trung Precinct and Dong Xuan City Award, two of Hanoi's localities with good records for defense of the fatherland's security. [From the Press Review] [Text] [OW021403 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 2 Mar 84]

CSO: 4209/181

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

NZ NEW ZEALAND TRADE COMMISSIONER TO VISIT VIETNAM

Auckland THE NEW ZEALAND HERALD in English 13 Feb 84 p 5

[Text] NZPA Staff Correspondent, Bangkok--New Zealand's trade commissioner in Bangkok has left for Vietnam to begin the first visit in almost 3 years by the trade office to the socialist republic.

The commissioner, Mr Phil Klap, said he had been waiting for some months for his visa, allowing him a 1-week visit to Hanoi.

Mr Klap said New Zealand's trade with Vietnam at the moment was virtually non-existent.

He said Vietnam had expressed an interest in developing bilateral trading relations, especially in the area of bartered trade.

One of the possibilities raised by the Vietnamese was that New Zealand should provide wool or woollen yarn which would be made into carpets and returned for New Zealand to market.

However, said Mr Klap, this would involve New Zealand carrying the financing of the trade over a long period, and was unlikely to be acceptable.

But Mr Klap said he would be discussing a number of trade matters with Vietnamese officials, including the possibility of assistance to their dairy sector and dairy product sales.

Mr Klap said part of a recent growth in Vietnamese exports was believed to have come from the easing of rigid government economic controls to allow some free trading.

The policy was reported to have aroused ideological differences with the government and some of the controls had now gone back on.

However, Vietnam recorded a record 16.26 million-tonne grain harvest (80 per cent of which was rice) in 1982 and seemed likely to have exceeded that last year, giving the promise of food self-sufficiency for its 45 million population and a possible reduction of the country's dependence on Soviet economic aid.

CSO: 4200/568

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

EP EXPECTED TO URGE 'CONDITIONAL' AID FOR SRV

BK120301 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 12 Feb 84 p 3

[By Thepchai Yong]

[Text] Phuket--The European Parliament (EP) is next week expected to adopt a resolution calling on the European Economic Community (EEC) to give "conditional" humanitarian aid to Vietnam, senior European parliamentarians told THE NATION here yesterday.

They said the proposed aid will be extended to Vietnam through international relief organizations and its distribution will be subject to strict control by nongovernmental bodies.

Gunter Rinsche of West Germany said the aid to Vietnam as proposed in a resolution by the Committee on Development and Cooperation of EP will strictly be for humanitarian purposes.

The aid will be used to basically improve nutrition and health of children and women in Vietnam, he said.

Rinsche is chairman of the EP delegation who was here for a 2-day dialogue with the delegates of the ASEAN Interparliamentary Organization (AIPO) at Phuket Merlin Hotel which ended yesterday.

However, Rinsche said the EP delegates had reiterated their opposition to development aid to Vietnam unless Hanoi agrees to the UN resolution to withdraw its troops from Kampuchea and Laos.

He said the resolution on the proposal [of] humanitarian aid to Vietnam will be debated during the plenary session of EP to be held in France next week.

Paul Vankerkhoven from Belgium, who is a member of the Committee on Development and Cooperation, said he expected the resolution to be adopted by the majority of the EP members.

Vankerkhoven explained that the humanitarian aid will also be provided on the condition that Vietnam takes necessary measures to facilitate and accelerate the implementation of the Orderly Department Programme (ODP) for Vietnamese wishing to leave the country for family reunion.

"Vietnam must also release political prisoners still being held in the so-called re-education camps," he said.

The amount of the proposed aid has not yet been determined but First Vice Chairman of the EP Delegation Derek Prag from England cautioned that it should not be "exaggerated."

He said the aid will purely be on food and medicines for the Vietnamese civilians and its distribution will be strictly controlled so that it will not be misused.

Among the international relief agencies through which the humanitarian aid will be channelled to Vietnam will be UNICEF and World Food Programme, he said.

However, Prag said the delegates of AIPO had opposed all forms of aid to Vietnam as long as it still maintains its troops in Kampuchea.

EEC has suspended all development aid to Vietnam since last year at the request of ASEAN which wants to keep economic pressure on Hanoi.

The resolution, if adopted by EP, will be passed on to the Council and Commission of the European Community.

CSO: 4200/568

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

NHAN DAN MARKS 'VICTORY OVER CHINESE AGGRESSION'

OW052355 Hanoi VNA in English 1520 GMT 5 Mar 84

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, 5 March--The following article appeared in NHAN DAN on 1 March [date as received] in honour of the 5th anniversary of the Vietnamese people's victory over the Chinese aggression:

Those who think that the Being ruling circles are more reasonable than Vietnam would change their opinion if they could come to Hoang Lien Son Province which shares more than 200 kilometres of common border with China.

Ever since their defeat, the Chinese expansionists have increased their sabotage acts against the peaceful life of the local population. Besides sending commandoes and scouts for murder and kidnapping, they have intensified nibbling attacks to occupy more land. Chinese troops opened fire on the Muong Khuong market at the peak hours and sent wanton artillery fire into the villages. They used loudspeakers to defame the Vietnamese leaders and smuggled consumer goods and food in an attempt to buy the local people's cooperation. Many of the intruders, however, were killed or captured, soon after they had treas-passed the border.

We went to Bat Xat District which lies immediately on this side of the border. The local population had just started the construction of the Ban Xeo hydro-electric power station. Sung A Sai of the Hmong ethnic minority, chairman of the Bat Xat people's committee, told us that before 1979, Bat Xat had eight hydro-electric stations. Six of them were destroyed by the Chinese invaders. The Ban Xeo station is scheduled to become operative a year from now.

Last year was one of the worst years for agriculture in the district. An annual cold spell lasted 10 days, sending snow to cover the fields of Bat Xat, 20 to 30 centimetres thick in some places. Yet, Bat Xat harvested five tons of rice per hectare, and a number of co-ops got as many as six or seven tons, double the 1979 figure. Bat Xat has not only produced enough food for its own but also to supply 1,250 tons of paddy and sell hundreds of tons of surplus to the state.

Political security and social order are firmly maintained. Four or 500 metres from us, on the other side of the border, are Chinese troops. At this point of its course, the Red River becomes very narrow and has several fords. Looking onto the Chinese side of the border we saw only denuded rubber forests and rolling hills of red soil. The Hokou District town was almost deserted. A

newly built road led to the frontier. The Chinese authorities had ordered the population to move five to seven kilometres from the border so that they could build forts and roads for military transport. From these forts, Chinese troops had daily opened fire on Vietnamese soil. In Bat Xat District alone, 380 Chinese commando and scout operations inside Vietnam have been recorded. This was combined with threats, cajoleries and brazen distortions.

The Vietnamese people on this forefront have waged a daily and very complicated struggle against a wicked and wily enemy. Maybe in no other place could we find such an harmonious and effective combination of the two strategic tasks. Each new population centre is a production unit and a fighting unit at the same time. The activities in the village, on the fields, in the combat trenches and air-raid shelters, followed a single and unified command. The experience of Bat Xat is being applied widely in other border provinces with a view to ensuring the everyday production and combat activities and also to build up a big reserve force to cope with all contingencies.

CSO: 4200/568

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

NHAN DAN EXPOSES PRC 'SCHEMES' IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

OW020827 Hanoi VNA in English 0714 GMT 2 Mar 84

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, 2 March--NHAN DAN today lays bare Beijing's schemes against the trend for dialogue in southeast Asia through Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian's recent trip to some southeast Asian countries.

In a commentary titled "Truth and Justice Will Win" the paper says:

"Well aware of China's growing threats and a positive trend for dialogue consistent with the desire of millions of southeast Asians now prevailing in the region, many noted politicians, members of parliament, senior officers, scientists, intellectuals and journalists in Indonesia and some other southeast Asian countries have openly declared that China is a real source of danger and threat to southeast Asia.

They have become more and more conscious of Beijing's wicked aims in nurturing the Pol Pot clique to monopolize the so-called Kampuchean problem "in service of its counter-revolutionary global strategy."

NHAN DAN says that all slanders and fabrications made by Wu Xueqian during his southeast Asia trip cannot appease the anxiety among public opinion as China is increasing its military collusion and strategic cooperation with the U.S. imperialists and the Japanese militarists, unceasingly modernizing its armed forces, poising a large force of its regular army close to the Sino-Vietnamese border, and increasing armed provocations and preparing for new dangerous adventures against Vietnam and the other two Indochinese countries.

"Wu Xueqian cannot conceal Beijing's expansionist design which is clearly seen in its efforts to foster and command its client Maoist organizations in southeast Asian countries," NHAN DAN says.

It points out that of late the ASEAN countries have expressed their strong indignation at China's smuggling people of Chinese origin from ASEAN countries through Hong Kong and Macao into China for training and sending them back to these countries to serve as Beijing's "fifth column."

With regard to Beijing's wicked scheme against Kampuchea and the other two Indochinese countries, NHAN DAN quotes the Indonesian paper MERDEKA as recently advising the ASEAN countries to keep away from China's machination otherwise they may be condemned as its accomplices.

CSO: 4200/568

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

HANOI CITES MERDEKA ON ASEAN STAND ON KAMPUCHEA

BK031519 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 2 Mar 84

[Text] The Indonesian paper MERDEKA on 27 February carried an editorial entitled: "Consultation Among ASEAN Leaders." The editorial says:

On the occasion of attending the ceremony marking Brunei's Independence Day, ASEAN leaders have held bilateral consultations. The consultation between President Suharto and Prime Minister Prem, in particular, lasted for 3 hours. The main topic of their consultation was the visit to Hanoi by General Murdani.

In ASEAN, some people doubted that Indonesia wants to make rapprochement to Vietnam, trying to split from ASEAN's stand. Indonesia is an independent country. It has an independent right to establish relations with any country. But as a member of ASEAN, Indonesia is also dutybound to blend together with other ASEAN countries. Its stand is increasingly firm. It contends that China, and not Vietnam, poses a dangerous threat to Southeast Asia.

We also see that Thailand has a different stand. This stand is contrary to that of Indonesia, but it is not the stand of all Thai leaders. For example, General Kriangsak who recently led a Thai parliamentary delegation to visit Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, has not agreed to this stand. Returning to Bangkok, General Kriangsak held a press conference to clearly point out his stand and the result of his visit to Vietnam. As far as we know, Kriangsak is a man of dignity who has wide experience.

Along with these diplomatic activities, there is also a new aspect in the Kampuchean situation in general. Observers have noted that the political and military balances within the coalition between Sihanouk-Son Sann and Pol Pot is no longer maintained. There are many signs indicating that the Sihanouk-Son Sann clique will become bankrupt and that the Pol Pot clique will rise up as a decisive factor.

From the beginning, we anticipated that the Sihanouk-Son Sann clique is only a tool used to bring Pol Pot back to power in Kampuchea. This anticipation is becoming true. As a result, time and energy should not be wasted any more. After clarifying its stand to ASEAN leaders, Indonesia must intensify its steps to positively approach Vietnam and try to gain wide support to cope with China's potential threat to Southeast Asia.

The consultation among ASEAN leaders in Brunei is an opportunity to review the stand of each side. Is it necessary to hold an ASEAN summit conference? We contend that it is not necessary yet, because the anti-Vietnam alliance is increasingly assuming the function as a Trojan horse to bring Pol Pot back to power in Kampuchea. As a result, we contend that ASEAN's attitude toward Kampuchea must be realistic. ASEAN must change its stand of the anti-Vietnam alliance in order to prevent it from committing a crime of siding with the Pol Pot clique.

CSO: 4209/181

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

BRIEFS

1979 'DEFEAT' OF PRC FORCES--Today, 4 March, NHAN DAN frontpages a document marking the 5th anniversary of the victory over the war of aggression waged by the Chinese expansionists and hegemonists. The documents says: This day 5 years ago, one of the nation's great epics ended with the defeat of 600,000 Chinese aggressors. A total of 62,500 enemies were put out of action; 280 tanks, 270 trucks, and 115 artillery pieces and mortars were destroyed; large amounts of war equipment were seized; and many enemy soldiers were taken prisoner. [Text] [BK060411 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 3 Mar 84]

ATTACHE SPEAKS ON ARMY DAY--Dear comrades and friends: The relations of friendship and cooperation between the National People's Army [NPA] and the VPA over the past years have also successfully developed, as attested by the training of your army officers and specialists at various NPA schools, the exchanges of visits by observation delegations and of experience between various organs of our two armies, and the regular cooperation with the VPA Technical Officer Candidate School named after Wilhelm Pieck, an important leader of the German and international workers movements and the GDR's first head of state. The GDR people and army have a profound affection for and loyal friendship with the undaunted Vietnamese people, who have stalwartly opposed their enemies of all stripes and who are currently doing their utmost to implement the resolutions of the Fifth CPV Congress. On behalf of the NPA combatants, may I respectfully wish the Vietnamese people and especially the VPA combatants as well as the Vietnamese security and defense organs many successes in firmly defending their homeland against all acts of aggression and hostility and in fulfilling their noble international duty. I sincerely thank you for your attention. [Statement by Lieutenant Colonel Helmut Woithe, military attache to the CDR Embassy in Vietnam, on 28th CDR Army Day--recorded in German fading into Vietnamese translation--date, place not given] [Excerpt] [BK021240 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 29 Feb 84]

CSO: 4209/181

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

BRIEFS

RALLY MARKS TRUNG SISTERS' UPRISING--Hanoi, VNA, 8 March--A mass rally was held today at the temple dedicated to the Trung sisters in Hanoi to mark the 1944th anniversary of the uprising led by the two sisters Trung Trac and Trung Nhi against foreign domination. The rally was attended by representatives of the central committees of the Vietnam fatherland front and of the Vietnam Women's Union; the Ministry of Culture; the Institute of History; the city party and people's committees; and large crowds of the Hanoi population. Addressing the meeting, Le Thanh, deputy secretary of the party committee and chairman of the people's committee of the Hai Ba Trung Precinct (named after the Trung sisters), pointed out the great significance of the Trung sisters' uprising against foreign rulers in 40 a.d. which opened the glorious history of resistance of the nation against foreign aggression. Flower offerings were then made to the memory of the national heroines. Also on this occasion the cultural and information service of Hanoi arranged an exhibition of relics of the uprising and talks on specific questions relating to it. [Text] [OW081552 Hanoi VNA in English 1508 GMT 8 Mar 84]

CSO: 4200/568

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

BRIEFS

LAND FOR NEW ECONOMIC ZONES--Hanoi, VNA, 8 March--In 1983, more than 51,000 hectares were reclaimed throughout the country to build new economic zones which have been or will be mostly planted with industrial and food crops. The rubber service reclaimed over 32,000 ha and topped its plan for new plantations by 29 per cent. Gia Lai-Kontum Province in the central highlands has built in the newly opened lands 39 new settlements for 17,000 families coming from other provinces. Along with sending its surplus work force to the central highlands for land reclamation, many southern provinces have reclaimed vast areas of arable land left waste during the war years. In the new economic zones, the settlers of the Kinh majority ethnic group who are skilled in intensive farming have been integrated into population centres of ethnic minorities to help them build agricultural co-operatives and use advanced farming techniques. Adequate attention has been paid to the transportation problem and the building of irrigation projects and public welfare projects, with the aim of stabilizing the settlers' life. Last year some 9,000 housing units, 54 schools, 32 infirmaries and three hospitals were built in the new economic zones. [Text] [OW081537 Hanoi VNA in English 1456 GMT 8 Mar 84]

CSO: 4200/568

AGRICULTURE

NAM BO REASSIGNS LAND, EXTENDS COLLECTIVE PRODUCTION

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 2 Jan 84 pp 1, 4

[Article: "Nam Bo Provinces Reassign Nearly 70,000 Hectares of Land, Organize 8,000 New Production Collectives, 56 New Agricultural Cooperatives; 37.3 Percent of Farmer Families and 30.2 Percent of Cultivated Area Join Collective Production"]

[Text] According to the Ministry of Agriculture, in 1983 the provinces and municipalities in Nam Bo reassigned nearly 70,000 hectares of land to those who had little or no land, with some areas being assigned to production collectives as additional land.

Many provinces like Tay Ninh, Song Be, Ho Chi Minh City, Minh Hai, Kien Giang, Dong Thap, Tien Giang, Cuu Long and Ben Tre basically completed the land-reassigning task. Most provinces already reviewed the land-reassigning campaign, evaluated the results obtained and at the same time proposed positive measures aimed at completing the distribution and allocation of land to those who had no land or were short of it and stepping up production.

Generally speaking, the leadership the Nam Bo provinces extended to last year's land-reassigning campaign in the countryside was quite good. As land was reassigned, the production installations combined the campaign with urging farmers to take part in production solidarity teams. The localities that enjoyed favorable conditions moved toward building them into production collectives and shaping up the economic relationship between farmers and the state through signing two-way contracts.

From the beginning of the year, as an activity that was closely linked with the land-reassigning campaign, the provinces organized 8,000 additional production collectives, raising the total to 18,062 collectives, or twice as many as before, and 245 new cooperatives, an increase of 56 cooperatives compared to 1982, and attracted 37.3 percent of farmer families and 30.2 percent of

the cultivated area into collective production. In 1983, the number of farmer families who joined collective production increased by 17 percent and the area of land being collectivized exceeded the 1982 figure by nearly 15 percent.

Along with building production collectives and cooperatives, the provinces paid attention to stepping up the building of production solidarity teams. All localities have so far had 24,439 production solidarity teams and units, with about more than 30 percent of them doing a good job. Tien Giang was the lead province among the Nam Bo localities in the agriculture-cooperativizing movement. Throughout the provinces more than 70 percent of farmer families, with more than 70 percent of the cultivated areas, joined the collectives and cooperatives. In Hau Giang, Ben Tre, Dong Thap and Cuu Long Provinces, more than 40 percent of farmer families and land joined the collective production.

All localities paid attention to consolidating and raising the quality of the existing collectives and cooperatives and at the same time extended the application of product contracts in agriculture. All provinces organized control and classification of collectives. The movement to build production collectives and cooperatives in the Nam Bo provinces is undergoing new changes, with its quality being better than before. The number of progressive cooperatives and collectives has been increasing; the number of poor ones has obviously dropped. Through the congresses of progressive collectives and cooperatives in the provinces (except Ho Chi Minh City and Hau Giang) they have selected 894 progressive units, including 737 collectives, 77 cooperatives, 32 production units, 32 villages and 16 districts.

The movement to transform agriculture in Nam Bo, however, has not developed steadily; in a number of localities, the work was rather slow. Some localities had good movement, but the quality of their collectives and cooperatives has not been improved yet. In the land-reassigning campaign, some localities still showed the signs of being impatient, blindly sticking to orders and forcing people to do things. Others failed to fully understand the standard class make-up in the countryside; as a result, as they were carrying out the transformation of agriculture, they needlessly created a tense situation sometimes.

A number of localities did not link land reassigning with building the cooperativizing movement, underestimated the form of organizing production solidarity teams and failed to pay attention to consolidating and building marketing and credit cooperatives in the countryside, with the task of linking the building of collectives and signing product contracts together being not so properly carried out in some localities. As management did not fully satisfy the need for development of the movement, the quality of the newly-established collectives remained poor.

AGRICULTURE

HAIPHONG REVIEWS ITS 1983 ACHIEVEMENTS, WEAKNESSES

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 2 Jan 84 pp 1, 4

[Article by Minh Son: "Haiphong, New Changes"]

[Text] In 1983 and the last 3 years many localities underwent good changes, which reflected the spirit of collective ownership, determination to be self-reliant and revolutionary offensive spirit. Haiphong was one of such localities.

The Haiphong Municipal Party Organization Executive Committee has recently met to review the leadership provided for fulfilling the 1983 state plan and to discuss fulfilling the 1984 state plan in the spirit of the 5th Plenum of the VCP Central Committee resolution. Haiphong's outstanding achievement was resolving the grain and food problem. In spite of the many difficulties arising from materials, raw materials and unfavorable weather, the 1983 crops were still good. The areas, crop yields and total grain production all exceeded those of 1982. Although its hogs encountered many diseases, Haiphong still attained its goal. Especially it was able to mobilize more than 10,000 tons of grain, which was 1.5 and 3.4 times greater than the figures in 1982 and the previous years, respectively; to satisfy 70 percent of the need for grain of the municipality as a whole; and to reduce the volume of centrally-supplied grain by nearly 70,000 tons compared to the previous years. That represented a great effort on the part of the people, cadres and party members.

Industrial production, both central and local, exceeded the plan goal and began the upward trend as the decreases were stopped. In the case of local industry, as it tried to provide itself with raw materials, for the first time to reorganize production and to invest more capital, it overfulfilled the plan by 3.5 percent and exceeded the 1982 figure by an increase of 6.6 percent. The volume of sea fish caught exceeded the plan goal by 25 percent and surpassed the preceding year in terms of not only the catch but also the quantities purchased and exported. Salt production increased by 36 percent over 1982.

Other activities, such as capital construction, export and import, communications and transportation, also exceeded the plan goals by 23-33 percent and increased by 20-55 percent compared to 1982. There were good changes in distribution and circulation, sociocultural activities, political security and national defense. A noteworthy fact was the obvious improvement in the farmers' standard of living, in terms of foods, clothes, facilities and to some extent housing conditions. The difficulties encountered in the life of cadres and workers were somewhat reduced, sometimes not so steadily yet, but the nine commodities being distributed in fixed quantities were supplied as scheduled, without the municipality having to compensate with cash. The wards and districts were able to provide jobs to 15,600 people, or 90 percent of the municipality's labor-age population.

Progress was made in organizational work, with efforts being made to fulfill the need for leadership and guidance; the mass-proselyting task was strengthened and aimed at stepping up the fulfillment of the socioeconomic tasks. The Municipal VCP Committee conference affirmed the following: Since the 5th Party Congress, Haiphong scored a lot of changes and progress, with stability being achieved in every aspect and a more and more steady manner. The reason behind that mainly was the fact that the party organization of the municipality had thoroughly understood the line and policies of the party and the directives of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the VCP, headed by General Secretary Le Duan. The Municipal VCP Committee considered agricultural production, first of all grain production, its topmost task as it concentrated on further leading Haiphong's agriculture toward the socialist large-scale production. With this manner of doing work, in 4 years from 1980 to 1983, it pulled the agriculture of Haiphong from a state of stagnation and boosted the crop yield from 49 quintals in 1980 to more than 63 quintals per hectare in 1983. In that achievement, Tien Lang was the first district that attained the grain productivity goal set for 1985.

In other fields of industrial production and communications and transportation, the leadership provided by the Municipal VCP Committee became more and more keen, positive, timely and creative. The conference also sternly criticized the shortcomings and weaknesses: the potential usefulness of labor, land, rivers and the sea, machinery and equipment was not rationally exploited yet. The development of vegetables and subsidiary food and industrial crops was rather slow. Industry, mostly the state-operated industry, did not undergo any big changes yet, with productivity, quality and efficiency remaining low. The socialist commerce was moving forward still too slowly; the number of small-business people remained quite large.

The reason behind the above-mentioned situation was the fact that a number of party committee echelons, cadres and party members had not fully understood the party views and line on the struggle between the two roads and the

struggle between us and the enemy, had not attached proper importance to consolidating and perfecting the socialist production relationships and had neglected the distribution and circulation front and the fight against any negative phenomena in economic management. There appeared in the ideological and organizational field some unhealthy tendencies, such as the principle of democratic centralism being not so seriously carried out and such phenomena as laziness, violations of socialist properties, backwardness, degradation, etc. still taking place.

The conference clearly pointed out that cadres at different levels had not been properly aware of the struggle between the two roads which was linked with the struggle between us and the enemy. The Haiphong Municipal VCP Committee then drafted a revolutionary program of action for 1984 with the following positive objectives:

About agricultural production, to actively practice intensive cultivation of rice, to grow more subsidiary food crops to ensure getting 70 quintals per hectare (an increase of .7 quintal over 1982) and to obtain a volume of grain production of 332,000 tons. To mobilize 110,000 tons in order to balance by itself the grain supply by the end of 1984; to raise the total number of hogs from 280,000 in 1983 to 300,000 in 1984. To increase the production of industry, small industry and handicrafts by 17 percent compared to 1983 and to obtain the highest value of annual gross production so far.

About production of marine products and salt, communications and transportation, capital construction, export and import, distribution and circulation, and so on, to raise the norms by 5-15 percent compared to 1983.

In order to overcome the weaknesses that the Municipal VCP Committee has pointed out, the Haiphong conference unanimously decided to take a number of urgent measures to fulfill successfully the objectives (including the ones that have been adjusted to be higher than those set in its plan) set by the resolution of the 8th Municipal Party Organization Congress: In order to balance the grain supply by the end of 1984, Haiphong decided to practice intensive cultivation of rice, to step up purchasing surplus grain from the cooperatives and farmers, to wipe out dealing in grain by private business people, to limit the use of grain to distill alcohol and to make snack foods and to direct the cooperatives to put aside 5 percent of the excess grain production as responsibility bonuses to be given to the sectors directly in charge of serving agriculture.

As for industry, small industry and handicrafts, in addition to reorganizing production, they will have to strongly develop economic integration and to use some of the municipality's foreign exchange to let enterprises and cooperatives borrow in order to import materials and equipment and to step up

touristic activities. In 1984, to build and put under unified management the Do Son touristic center capable of accommodating hundreds of thousands of tourists; to quickly finish the construction of Dinh Vu Hotel for accommodating foreign ship crews to collect foreign exchange; to gradually build the Cat Hai-Cat Ba touristic center, to provide the people with land for building houses along the route going from Haiphong to Do Son in accordance with projects and plans and to permit people to rent parts of their houses to tourists.

On the basis of stepping up production and development, the Municipal VCP Committee will concentrate its leadership on the distribution and circulation front; in 1984 achieve at any cost the control of cash and goods at the basic level, particularly grain and foods; and ensure the supply in sufficient quantities of nine commodities to cadres, workers, civil servants and the armed forces.

The committee assigned its own members, members of the people's committee and service directors the task of being in charge of a subward or a production installation and made positive decisions about building up the ward and subward levels. By 1985 to invest 100 million dong for the benefit of 33 subwards (in 1983 each subward was given 1 million dong to repair public works). Each subward will build stores selling grain, foods, vegetables and fruits, cultural goods, etc. The municipality decided to get rid of all thatched huts by 1990. The conference put an emphasis on the measure that would require closely combining industry and agriculture, letting the basic level decide about the structure of both industry and agriculture, concentrating energy on fully developing agriculture, stepping up production of consumer goods and goods for export, making ship repairs and sea transport services become regular and effective activities of good quality, stepping up export and attaching importance to on-the-spot export as a contribution to balancing the needs having to do with production and the standard of living. To pay attention on a permanent basis to leadership and guidance over ideological and cultural activities, national defense and security. To consolidate the basic party organization, to perfect the district level and to pay attention to distribution and circulation. To provide sound leadership over understanding and implementing the resolutions of the 4th and 5th Plenums of the VCP Central Committee; to attach importance to fighting for the practice of criticisms and self-criticisms at all levels and in all sectors.

In improving the leadership and guidance provided by the party committee echelons, the operations of state organs and the working mode adopted by the mass organizations from municipal to basic level, Haiphong will pay attention to continuing to renew the managerial mechanism and some of its policies, raising the effectiveness of the economic machineries and achieving planning from the basic level, with special attention to be paid to carrying out the

principle of democratic centralism and promoting the working people's collective ownership right, for the purpose of striving to successfully fulfill the 1984 state plan and to create a momentum for drafting and carrying out the 1985 state plan.

In the morning of 1 January 1984, in the May To Stadium in Ngo Quyen Ward, the Haiphong Municipal VCP Committee, People's Committee and Fatherland Front Committee organized a solemn ceremony to mark the launching of their activities in the new year.

Attending the ceremony were Doan Duy Thanh, member of the VCP Central Committee and secretary of the Municipal VCP Committee; Nguyen Dan, chairman of the People's Committee; Nguyen Manh Ai, chairman of the Municipal Fatherland Front Committee; the cadres in charge of various sectors and echelons; and more than 35,000 delegates of all strata of the working population and the armed forces in the municipality.

In the name of the party organization and people of Haiphong Municipality, the participants in the ceremony sent telegrams to the VCP Central Committee, National Assembly, Council of State, Council of Ministers and Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee to promise emulating one another to step up every aspect of production and their regular work, to bring about the highest productivity and the greatest quality and efficiency, to fulfill and overfulfill the 1984 state plan and to make deserving contributions, along with the people and combatants throughout the country, to successfully building socialism and strongly defending the socialist Vietnamese fatherland.

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